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## Near East/South Asia Report

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3 July 1984

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BAGHDAD-TOKYO RELATIONS SOUR OVER IRANIAN OIL IMPORTS

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English Vol 8, No 13, 14 May 84 p 9

[Text]

Relations between Baghdad and Tokyo are coming under severe strain following Iraq's insistence that Japan should cut off oil imports from Iran. The Iraqi government said last week that the continuation of oil imports was helping the Iranian war effort and was a "short-sighted attitude" towards Japan's future relations with the Arab state.

Japan, which has important trading and construction interests in Iran, has tried to steer a neutral course in the Gulf war and is not expected to comply with the Iraqi demands. Iranian oil is particularly important for Japan's refineries and provides more than ten per cent of its total crude imports.

Japan's oil purchases are already down this year because of the economic recession, and Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, urged Tokyo to step up imports during his visit to the Japanese capital last month. Japan's official position is that the level of imports is determined by the private sector and reflects the general level of economic activity.

Japan's attempts to steer a neutral course between the two warring countries has led it to offer mediation. But, like other such attempts, it has always been firmly rejected by Tehran. Iraq's deputy prime minister, Tareq Aziz, is expected to go to Tokyo later this month for talks with Japanese officials on ways of stopping the war.

However, last week, he warned a visiting Japanese foreign official in Baghdad against "this attitude of worrying about temporary interests at the expense of long-term strategic relations and interests."

Last year Japan exported \$2.8bn worth of goods to Iran, but only \$632mn to Iraq. One oil trader warned that if Japan did not buy Iranian oil, Iran could not buy Japanese products.

**Iran drops reparation demands**

A leading Iranian cleric said last week that if the Iraqi leader, Saddam Hussein, were overthrown, Iran would drop its demands for reparations and even offer financial aid to Iraq, the Iranian News Agency reported. Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, often described as a likely successor to Ayatollah Khomeini, said Iran would not accept an imposed solution to the Gulf war. But he told a meeting in Qom that if Saddam Hussein and the Baath party leadership were removed from power, "the Islamic Iran would not only forego the war reparations, but also it would aid Iraq."

It was not clear from the remarks whether Iran was formally reducing its war demands, or whether it regarded its occupation of the oil-rich Majnoon islands in Iraq as satisfying honour on this score.

COOPERATION COUNCIL DEPUTY SECRETARY DISCUSSES REGIONAL ISSUES

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic No 57, 12 May 84 pp 20-21

[Interview With Ibrahim al-Subhi, assistant secretary general of Arab Gulf Cooperation Council, by Sami al-'Uthman; "We Have Made Long Stride and There Is Still a Lot Ahead of Us"]

[Text] Why the haste insofar as the security agreement is concerned and why do Gulf media misunderstand some issues?

A difference exists between council member states and we will overcome it.

Security of the Gulf is the responsibility of its citizens; greater international efforts are required to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war"

On the fifth of the current month of May, the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council completed the 3rd year of its life. On the 3-year march and on the aspirations desired from the council, AL-TADAMUN has had this interview with Ibrahim al-Subhi, the assistant secretary for political affairs at the council's General Secretariat. Ibrahim al-Subhi is a man with rich experience gained through his representation of the Sultanate of Oman in various parts of the world. The latest position he had held was that of the Sultanate's ambassador to Japan.

On the 3-year march of the Cooperation Council, Ibrahim al-Subhi said:

The 3-year period that has passed since the founding of the council has witnessed the maturing of numerous ideas and actual and tangible production started during this period. Even though it is a relatively very short time in the life of an institution or experience, we have reached an advanced phase of sincere cooperation founded on a definite desire. Politically, we have made a long stride in the sphere of coordination in international lobbies. There is now closeness in many positions, in addition to a tendency to unify many positions through meetings and conferences that include the council member states--meeting and conferences that lead to proximity, if not unity, in the opinion of the council member

states in the international lobbies. A meeting will be scheduled shortly for the officials of the ministries of foreign affairs to review the topics before the U.N. session. This is our way to entering international conferences with close viewpoints. The role of the council is no secret to the observer, whether in terms of contributing at the international level, the regional level or the Arab level, as in the case of the Iraq-Iran war, the Lebanese crisis and the Palestinian issue.

Moreover, we have begun to implement in the security sphere some of the resolutions that have given the citizens the facilities of movement, work and investment. The council has organized a number of symposiums concerned with security aspects. Security cooperation is present and tangible and all that remains to be done is to put the agreement in a legal framework, considering that the draft unified security agreement goes through a channel of study like numerous other draft agreements. This does not worry us. Let the study take its time because we are in no hurry. It is perhaps proper to make here a regrettable observation, namely that our Gulf media have not yet comprehended the purpose of the security agreement. Many of the citizens of the council member states have formed their convictions and opinions in a manner contrary to the spirit of the agreement. What is required of the Gulf media is to familiarize themselves with and understand the agreement before they write anything about it.

We asked Ibrahim al-Subhi about the council's accomplishments in the military sphere and he said:

In the military sphere, we have full conviction in the cooperation we have achieved. We must be sincere to what we decide in terms of self-reliance, utilizing our intrinsic capability and steering the area clear of international conflicts. We are moving ahead with coordinating and organizing all that serves us in the sphere of defense. We have a conviction in which we believe, namely that without a deterrent force we cannot secure adequate strength and without an internal front the plan will be incomplete. Besides the deterrent force, we need support from within. This is why we are seeking to strengthen the internal front. I mean by this front the citizens wherever they happen to be. Moreover, we are building our defense force to prove to the world that the area is not threatened and that we are capable of protecting its security and stability. In this regard, let me point out that there is firm coordination between the three axes, namely the political axis, the security axis and the military axis, to develop a complete plan for building this area so that it may gain the respect of others. This respect is something gained, not imposed. This is what we aspire for and what constitutes the most important feature of the council's foreign policy.

[Question] What about information coordination?

[Answer] There may be a visualization for forming an information policy for the council member states. But this matter requires more time and concerted contacts with the experienced agencies. I don't believe that this policy will add something new to what is actually in existence. I should not forget to note here that we aspire for more contacts with the

outside world and that we are trying to formulate an organized policy capable of conveying our issues with credibility to the world, especially since we are not satisfied with the way the western media deal with some of our issues and since we are trying to confront some of the hostile information policies in an objective scientific manner, taking into consideration that with the qualified human capabilities we have and with our material resources we can rid ourselves of any monopoly imposed by the west in the information sphere generally.

[Question] Where has the coordination in development strategy reached?

[Answer] The educational and social difference and the difference in individual income is an acknowledged fact. This difference can be attributed to the fact that the council member states did not embark on a single march simultaneously. This is in addition to the difference in the demographic and geographic makeup and distribution in each state. This difference is the subject of discussion. It is not easy to contain it and it must be confronted with development plans. This is what we seek by establishing a development strategy that takes these levels and criteria into consideration. The officials of the council member states are concerned fundamentally with the Gulf citizen. He is the nucleus and on him falls the responsibility of taking over the message from this generation. He is the truly lasting resource on this land. Our program always take into consideration contact among the youth in the athletic and cultural spheres. There will be a common youth festival and youth exhibit. Coordination between the council member states in the cultural and educational program is considered a means for reducing the difference I have talked about. There may have been delay on the part of the council in this regard but the council has not neglected this aspect. There are concerted contacts with the existing agencies. For example, we have contacted the Popular Heritage Conference in the State of Qatar to engage in activity that highlights the heritage and the culture that link the council member states. A study is being now made of the outcome of these contacts to find out the extent of the possibility of their serving the culture and heritage and to highlight the cultural roots of this area.

[Question] In your assessment, how can the Iraq-Iran war be contained and be brought to an end and what is meant by an "extraordinary mediation" to end the war, as stated by the council secretary general?

[Answer] The statement of the council secretary general on carrying out an extraordinary mediation for the extraordinary Iraq-Iran war is intended to demand the concentration of efforts and departure from the ordinary framework of mediation in order that we may secure effectiveness and influence and may succeed in putting an to this war. This requires that international efforts be added to Arab efforts and that efforts be made to look for the international parties that contain this war and can insure a response [from the combatants]. In this respect, Iraq's position is obvious and it is well known that Iraq wishes to establish peace. We, the Cooperation Council member states, are constantly asking Iran to respond to the said efforts. There is no justification whatsoever for

prolonging this war. However, the problem here is not just bringing the war to an end but the consequences generated by this war, considering that the real battle will be embodied in the battle to rebuild what the war has destroyed. As for the reconstruction fund to which reference is made from time to time, it has no basic whatsoever so far. When the war comes to a halt, all solutions can be raised.

[Question] Have the council member states developed a specific position toward the issue of Egypt's return to the Arab League?

[Answer] Egypt's return to the League will be determined by the Arab League, as the Islamic Conference has decided on Egypt's return to the Islamic fold. Nobody denies that Egypt has an actual Arab role and that it can play an important role in the Middle East issues.

[Question] Finally, what about the Gulf?

[Answer] Any political projection must be supported with military action. If there is no force to protect your accomplishments and principles, then who will protect them? Herein emerges our reliance on our intrinsic power to meet our basic needs, which demand that the area's security be in the hands of our citizens. This is why we are building our defense force out of our eagerness to be an impenetrable wall and not out of the desire to engage in a power display. To be sincere in what we say, we must back up our statements with actions so that we may prove to the world that the area's security will not be threatened as long as the area's citizens are capable of protecting it and safeguarding its stability.

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CSO: 4404/491



CONFERENCE DISCUSSES GULF LABOR LAWS, PROBLEMS

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic No 57, 12 May 84 pp 21-22

[Article by Salih Zaytun: "Foreign Labor Concerns at Conference of Ministers of Labor and Social Affairs; Further Studies Before Agreement to Unify Laws"]

[T-xt] Doha--'Ali al-Ansari, the Qatari minister of labor and social affairs, headed the meetings of the ministers of labor and social affairs of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council which convened at the headquarters of the Council's General Secretariat in Riyadh recently. The ministers approved the recommendations referred to them by the undersecretaries of the ministries, who had met at an earlier time. The recommendations are tantamount to the implementation of the provisions of the Gulf economic agreement.

The conferees exerted efforts to agree on a general framework for common future Gulf action in the sphere of labor and social affairs. A paper was presented by 'Abdallah Bisharah, the Cooperation Council secretary general.

As a result of the ministers' 2 day discussions, it has been agreed that the General Secretariat, in cooperation with the Ministries of Labor, will continue to conduct comparative field studies on labor issues and the means leading to stabilizing labor relations and then to establish unified regulations to develop preventive awareness regarding vocational hazards, to unify the regulations for conducting vocational studies, to develop the means to conduct such studies and to coordinate with the agencies concerned to hold seminars on the importance of vocational health and safety so as to protect the workers and production facilities and to spread awareness regarding the modern means to achieve this objective.

A special committee formed by the ministers prior to their previous meeting had been entrusted with conducting a study on spreading awareness among the Gulf citizens on the issue of foreign labor. In their latest meeting, the ministers discussed the contents of this study but postponed making a decision on the study until the subsidiary agencies concerned with this issue meet and implement whatever they deem fit.



It seems that the conference has faced difficulties that impede unifying the labor laws in the Gulf states. The ministers studied this issue but decided that more time is required to coordinate and that what is needed before this coordination is to gather and study the laws with the purpose of unifying them later on.

'Ali al-Ansari, the Qatari minister of labor, has stated that the laws in the Gulf states are somewhat conflicting, especially insofar as some particulars, such as social security, are concerned. Each state differs from the other in implementing social security due to the presence of special regulations in each stage separately.

This is why al-Ansari has proposed that these laws be studied carefully with the purpose of finding the best among them and those closest to society's interest so that agreement may be reached on them.

The Qatari minister believes that the issue of foreign labor is exaggerated and that the Gulf states have imported only the labor they need for their projects and services, noting that the position of the Gulf states is inclined toward using Arab manpower and toward giving it priority in the competition with foreign labor because this helps the Gulf states not just in terms of construction and development but also in terms of raising society's cultural and social level.

However, the Qatari minister believes that the cooperation and friendship agreements with friendly countries, especially the Asian countries, require the Gulf states to import workers from these countries and not to be ungrateful for the pro-Arab positions of these countries, especially the Asian countries that have obstructed so far Israel's accession to the regional bloc emanating from the International Labor Organization.

The Qatari minister has pointed out that the Gulf ministers of labor decided at the Riyadh conference to unify the names, jurisdiction and structures of the labor and social agencies and to form a special committee for the purpose. The ministers have also agreed to annex the juvenile affairs agencies to the ministries of labor in the area states whereas it is known that such agencies have been under the control of the ministries of interior so far.

The ministers have also decided to support the names of the Arab representatives nominated to the membership of the Executive Council of the International Labor Organization, which will meet this month, May, in Geneva. The Arab ministers of labor will meet at the sidelines of this conference to coordinate on this issue.

The Gulf states have decided to take part in the three-party roundtable regional conference on international immigration. This conference is scheduled to be held by the Arab and Asian countries in Bangkok next September. It has also been decided to take part in the regional symposium

on labor immigration to the Middle East which will be held in Colombo next June.

The Gulf ministers of labor have left it up to each state to make its independent decision on the issue of approving the labor agreement brought up for discussion within the framework of the Islamic Conference Organization. The ministers have also postponed until a later meeting discussing the issue of the rights and duties of the citizens of the Cooperation Council member states and the means of dealing with these citizens by the area's private sector.

The meeting of the Gulf ministers of labor has followed the symposium on labor statistical studies in the Gulf states, in which Qatar had participated. The symposium concluded by stressing the need for coordination between the area's Ministries of Labor.

The symposium, held in Kuwait, also reached other important conclusion, including: The [need for] efforts to unify the definitions, concepts and terminology used in the sphere of labor statistics and to unify the means and methods of population surveys so that they may cover the basic economic activities, may take stock of the strategic professions, may outline labor volume and may define the economic and other factors affecting the economic and social activities of the area work forces.

The symposium also urged the need to organize an Arab Gulf directory for vocational classification and to unify the names of the various vocations with the purpose of unifying the methods of work in the Gulf states, provided that this be coupled with boosting the exchange of special expertise and information among the area's states so that they may benefit from each other's experiences.

The symposium decided to give field priority to the phenomenon of the immigration and inflow of foreign labor to the Gulf oil states to find out the volume and characteristics of the immigrants and the economic and social consequences emanating from this immigration.

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PROBLEMS OF ARAB IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY EXAMINED

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 378, 19 May 84 pp 53-54

[Article: "Missing Link in Arab Iron and Steel Industry"]

[Text] The Arab iron and steel industry has reached an advanced stage but foreign competition, even in local markets, dictates that this modern industry set up other industries to complement it.

Nearly 2 months ago, the Saudi monarch inaugurated the plant of the Saudi Iron and Steel Company which has been built in the Saudi area of Jubayl. Since then, the economic experts have opened the dossier of the Gulf iron and steel industry in particular and of the Arab iron and steel industry generally. The Saudi plant, which operates with sophisticated technology that uses natural gas instead of oil products as a source of energy, produces a part of the needs of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states and spares Saudi Arabia the need to import iron and steel worth nearly 1 billion riyals annually. Despite this, the plant may face serious difficulties in marketing its production of reinforcing bars and rods. The reason is that giant producers, such as Brazil, Japan and South Korea, export their steel production to the various world markets at dumping prices. For example, U.S. plants sell a ton of steel for nearly \$1,200 whereas Brazil sells it for \$500 and South Korea for \$800. As for Japan, which is affected by European and U.S. pressure, it offers its production for sale at an average price of \$1,000 a ton. Saudi Arabia can compete with Brazil, relying on the availability of energy resources to it (natural gas and electricity). But competition to the point of bone breaking will reduce the economics of the [Saudi] project to a minimum. Moreover, the link is not confined to the front of marketing iron and steel but extends to other fronts, such as technology and the transportation of production. In this regard, a study issued recently in Qatar (the first Gulf country to enter the field of iron and steel production on a large scale) says that Qatari and Gulf production generally is facing sharp competition in the local markets themselves. One of the aspects of this competition is the fact that Japan transports its production to the Gulf states at a cost of no more than \$20 per ton whereas the cost of transporting a tone from Qatar to Bahrain, a distance of just 30 kilometers, is \$25. This gives the competing foreign production a very important edge in prices. Despite this, Qatar has achieved in the past few years great success in

the production and marketing of iron and steel. The capacity of the Qatari plants amounts to nearly 400,000 tons annually and Qatar exports its production to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq. Moreover, Qatar's plants operate at full capacity, which is something rare in the world of iron and steel that is experiencing an almost insurmountable crisis.

The estimates indicate that the planned capacity of the iron and steel plants of the Gulf states amounted in 1982 to 847,000 tons. Since the inauguration of the Saudi plant in al-Jubayl, this capacity has risen to 1.6 million tons. In case Iraq completes its plants, it is expected that this capacity will rise to 2.8 million tons. But if the projects under study are implemented, the total capacities of the iron and steel projects in the Gulf area will amount to 5.2 million tons, i.e. to the equivalent of the area's imports of this commodity--imports amounting to 5 million tons. Meanwhile, the area's apparent consumption amounts to 4.5 million tons [annually<sup>1/2</sup>]. The iron and steel industry is one of the aspects of a country's progress. Brazil is a country that is suffering more deeply from industrial recession and yet it is planning to raise the capacity of its plants from 10 million tons to 20 million tons annually with the approach of 1990, disregarding this recession. The Soviet Union boasts that it has achieved in a small number of years superiority over the United States in the production of steel and iron. This is not surprising because this industry is the base of the industrialization processes and the entryway to the phase of advanced industry. As for South Korea, it is expanding this industry, relying on the growing demand of local industries and on its superior ability to market its production abroad, especially since it has set as its goal the removal of Japan from the world market. South Korea, like Brazil, is increasing its total capacities, regardless of any consideration, and is separating the process of production from the process of marketing. This is in accordance with the philosophy which says that each of the two phases, namely production and marketing, has its circumstances and decisions.

It is evident that the governments of South Korea and Brazil subsidize their exports with enormous sums of money in the hope of getting the hard currency that enables them to pay their foreign debts. As for the Arab world, it is moving very slowly at times and at a rapid pace at other times. The Arab world's production is currently estimated at 8 million tons of iron and steel and their byproducts whereas this world's needs, according to the 1980 statistics of the Arab Iron and Steel Federation, amount to nearly one million [as published] tons annually. The latest development in this regard is that Egypt will build a new plant in Alexandria with a capacity of 800,000 tons to be added to the capacity of the existing plants in Hulwan, amounting to 1.5 million tons.

The Arab world is experiencing numerous problems in the production of steel and iron, perhaps the most important being the problems of low productivity and the glaring shortage of technology. The second Arab iron and steel conference, held in Bahrain last November, pointed out this problem, recommending that an analytical study be conducted for the Arab

steel plantw to find out the reason for this shortage in some plants and to formulate the proper solutions for the problem, provided that the study be presented to a special Arab symposium. The most important obstacles also include the absence of the complementary industries in the required quantity and quality and the weakness of the Arab market generally, considering that this market is supposed to be a vital sphere for the Arab iron and steel industry. The conference further recommended that studies be conducted on the industries complementing the iron and steel industry as a future objective of the integration of this industry, both anteriorly and posteriorly. The conference also urged the need for the establishment of trade exchange on the basis of unifying the technical and quality standards, the delivery and contracting conditions and other aspects. But the major problem is the Arab governments, which do not attach utmost importance to this industry, unlike the governments of South Korea and Brazil. As a further sign of the Arab governments' neglect, these governments have amassed in their [iron and steel] plants a large number of workers that exceed the capacity of these plants. This is perhaps the main reason for the low productivity. But Dr 'Abdallah Hamad al-Mu'ajjil, the general secretary of the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consultation, believes that the problem does not lie in increasing the production capacity to 25 million tons for the Gulf area and to 100 million tons for the Arab area generally by the end of the century. There are numerous external and internal, subjective and objective factors that must be taken into consideration. The external factors dictate that the world recession in this sphere be taken into consideration. Moreover, the technologies for this industry and for the other industries complementing it change constantly. Here, Dr al-Mu'ajjil urges two things: Developing Arab competitiveness and developing the technologies of the Arab area. In a study on the strategy of the development of the iron and steel industry in the Arab Gulf states, Dr Nazar 'Abbas al-Rubay'i has reached conclusions on a number of important points that can help develop this industry, including the creation of a higher technical advisory organization whose main objective will be to exchange information on technology and production, the founding of a Gulf-Arab commercial company to market products (the second conference of the ARab Iron and Steel Union recommended the foundation of a similar company at the Arab level), studying the possibility of utilizing the opportunities for the production of reinforcing iron rods, cables, bolts of all kinds, light and heavy bars, all kinds of strips, boards, plates and piping and steel blocks and tiles, conducting a serious study on developing the mining industry, adopting an industry of modern, not conventional, complexes, conducting studies on the production of equipment and instruments used by the iron and steel plants and other studies on all the industries that consume steel, such as steel structures and their parts, steel installations, storage tanks and stationary and mobile tanks mounted on trucks, the home appliance industry, the electric tools and instruments industry, the industry producing power-generating equipment, the shipbuilding industry, the means of land transportation, railroads and trucks, the industry producing steel wires and cables, the screws and nails industry, the industry producing iron ingots and

other industries. It is evident from this that the Arab market consumes enormous quantities of completely manufactured iron and steel products at a time when the Arab iron and steel industries, which meet just a small part of the Arab market needs, face marketing difficulties emanating fundamentally from the absence of a sufficient number of complementary industries that undertake to convert iron and steel into semi-processed and finished products. Between the two links, there is a vast gap that requires greater efficiency with intrinsic technologies, as Dr al-Mu'ajjal says.

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COOPERATION BETWEEN GULF COUNCIL, GULF NEWS AGENCIES DISCUSSED

Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 15 May 84 p 4

[Article: "Directors of Gulf States News Agency Decide to Approve SAUDI PRESS AGENCY as Primary and Official Source of News of Cooperation Council in Its Capacity as Agency of Council Headquarters"]

[Text] At the conclusion of their meetings last evening, the directors of the news agencies in the Gulf states approved the appointment of the SAUDI PRESS AGENCY as the official source for news of the General Secretariat of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council by virtue of its being the agency of the council headquarters, provided that the SPA disseminate these reports so that the other Gulf news agencies may carry them.

In their morning and evening meetings, attended by Ibrahim al-Subhi, the council's assistant general secretary for economic affairs, the directors stressed the importance of the news analysis that serves the council's objectives. They also stressed the importance of the exchange of journalists between the news agencies. In the sphere of the performance of the national agencies, they recommended that the General Secretariat exert efforts with the concerned Cooperation Council's authorities to facilitate the task of the national news agencies and to make it easy for them to obtain the news necessary for their activities, whenever this is possible, that periodic analyses be made of the events in the council member states and of the relevant important issues. Cooperation can be established between the General Secretariat and the GULF NEWS AGENCY to bring this project into existence.

They further recommended that journalists of the agencies of the member states be assigned to specialize in following up on news reports and information concerning the council member states, to analyze and report on the various events in the area and to highlight the activities carried out by the Cooperation Council's leaders and prominent officials, stressing the collective concept of these activities, provided that coordination be established between the General Secretariat and the news agency concerned.



In the sphere of cooperation between the agencies on the one hand and between them and the council's General Secretariat on the other hand, the conferees recommended that the General Secretariat convey its news to the SAUDI NEWS AGENCY by virtue of its presence in the state hosting the council's headquarters, that this agency transmit these news reports in its turn to the other national news agencies of the council member states and that the news of the Cooperation Council be characterized by a political content through which the council's objectives and aspirations can be achieved. The news agencies of the council member states may make direct inquiries to the General Secretariat and follow up on the topics that concern them collectively or individually.

The directors also recommended that the Cooperation Council's General Secretariat coordinate between the Gulf news agencies on the media coverage of the non-Gulf conferences attended by all or some of the council member states and that the news agencies of the council member states supply the General Secretariat with information on their offices and their correspondents abroad so that the secretariat may prepare a report on the way to coordinate and cooperate with these offices and to benefit from them collectively.

Insofar as clarifying the Cooperation Council's objectives is concerned, the conferees asserted that it is necessary to supply facts and information and make them accessible to the media, that the national news agencies be embraced as the main sources of news in the area and that emphasis be put on the importance of establishing contacts between the General Secretariat and the national news agencies on the one hand and between the other news agencies and the General Secretariat on the other hand.

The conferees have also recommended that the ministers concerned apply the reduced press tariff approved by the UNESCO general conference for the cable circuits allocated for press uses by the national news agencies of the council member states.

The conference further recommended that the General Secretariat make the necessary contacts with the Arab Space Communications Organization--ARABSAT-- to discuss the means and possibilities of utilizing the Arab satellite to serve the news agencies of the member states. During his meeting with the general directors of the news agencies of the council member states, 'Abdallah Bisharah, the Cooperation Council general secretary, expressed the hope that the meeting will contribute to achieving the desired objectives embodied in underlining the accomplishments made by the council at all levels and the good objectives on which the council has been founded.

Bisharah stressed the importance of familiarizing the Gulf citizen with events through news reports supported by background and comprehensive information so that he may become familiar with the real picture.



Participating in this meeting, the first of its kind within the framework of the Cooperation Council, were Ibrahim al-Subhi, the Cooperation Council's assistant general secretary for political affairs; 'Abdallah Hulayl, the general director of the SAUDI PRESS AGENCY; Nabil al-Hummar, the general director of the GULF NEWS AGENCY; Ibrahim al-'Abid, the general director of the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY; 'Ali al-Kawwari, the general director of the QATARI NEWS AGENCY; Ahmad al-Dashti, the deputy general director of the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY; Sa'id al-Mughayti, the general director of the OMAN NEWS AGENCY; and Dr 'Abdallah al-Jasir, the director of information affairs at the Cooperation Council's General Secretariat.

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MUBARAK'S PERSONALITY, STYLE OF LEADERSHIP STUDIED

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 217, 7-13 Apr 84 pp 8-11

[Article by 'Imad-al-Din Adib: "Journey Inside the Mind of Egyptian President To Answer the Most Serious Question: Mubarak's Secret Plan for Ruling Egypt!"]

[Text] Muhammad Husni Mubarak (56) and 4 wars with Israel, 6 military battles in the Arab world, a long list of military positions, vice-president, escape from an assassination attempt, then ruler of Egypt!

Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, a position he did not choose and a responsibility he did not expect to be so momentous.

To run the affairs of one of the oldest countries in history such as Egypt, there has to be "some kind of formula." To lead one of the largest armies of the area and achieve internal and external security for it, there has to be "some kind of formula." To deal with a decayed legacy of political and economic corruption he inherited from his late predecessor, there has to be "some kind of formula."

To deal with 24 extremist Islamic religious groups, 4 extremist Coptic Christian detachments, 6 official parties and 4 un-official forces, there has to be "some kind of formula."

To deal with intelligence, police and army agencies and follow up agencies such as the administrative prosecution and the socialist prosecutor and the judiciary, there has to be "some kind of formula."

To solve the overwhelming economic problem and provide food for a people growing on the average of one child every 25 seconds and one million every 10 months, there has to be "some kind of formula."

To deal with Washington without surrendering to it Egyptian national sovereignty and with Israel without normalization with it, to get closer to the Arabs without abrogating Camp David and to deal with the Umm Durman crisis in Sudan without a war breaking out on Egypt's western front, there has to be "some kind of formula."

What is this formula? And what is that plan that has enabled Mubarak to overcome numerous internal, Arab and international storms without heavy losses?

In short, how does Mubarak think and what is his plan?

This report is an attempt to get to know Mubarak, the human being, the politician and the military man in order to answer these important questions.

All security reports sent every morning to the director of the office of the deputy commander-in-chief of the Egyptian armed forces, the famous Shams Badran, used to confirm that the Egyptian army in 'Abd-al-Nasir's regime was peaceful and stable.

Shams Badran's job, as defined by the deputy commander-in-chief of the Egyptian armed forces, Field Marshal 'Abd-al-Hakim 'Amir, in order No 118 issued in 1966, was to set up a secret organization within the armed forces, headed by Shams. The object of the organization was to supply the command with information about officers and enlisted men and to ensure their loyalty.

Secret reports on Flight Col Muhammad Husni Mubarak confirmed that this officer was "all business," that is, he had no political tendencies or loyalties. Reports also said that Col Muhammad Husni Mubarak assiduously attended political education courses and competitions given by the armed forces' moral guidance department and received the highest grades with great distinction.

The most important thing in the reports was that Husni Mubarak was not influenced ideologically by his advanced studies in aviation science in the USSR.

Thus, Muhammad Husni Mubarak, the son of Kafr al-Musaylihah [village], Shibin al-Kawm District in al-Minufiyah Governorate, was an example of the dominant quality that distinguishes the majority of the people in the area known as the most fertile agricultural area in Lower Egypt.

The people of al-Minufiyah, or the "Manayifah" as they are called in Egypt, are noted for their caution and do not know the lasting emotional loyalties that set most people of Lower Egypt apart.

In Kafir al-Musaylihah, Muhammad Husni Mubarak grew up as the son of a simple family, numbering all in all (uncles, relatives, etc.) no more than 40 persons, while the average rural family in Egypt has 100 persons.

When young Muhammad Husni Mubarak went from Kafr al-Musaylihah to Cairo to study aviation, the only advice he received was "to follow a straight course." Hence, Mubarak was not influenced as others were by the capital's bright lights.

During that period, Husni Mubarak is said to have never smoked one cigarette or tasted any alcohol, nor did he indulge in the actions of youth looking for entertainment and recreation.

At that time, the dominant trait of many young men in the army was to look for adventure, join underground political parties or get close to intellectual and literary clubs.

What Muhammad Husni Mubarak did was not join any underground organization, not take part in fun and pleasure and not get involved in intellectual clubs. The young man was intent on not talking politics or revealing what was inside him. Mubarak was the young man who watched student demonstrations in the forties demanding "independence or violent death," heard about the existence of a revolutionary organization within the army, heard about King Faruq's attempt to set up a private organization in the army called "the iron guard," but never took part in any of them.

It is noted that the late president Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir was forming with his friends the Free Officers' organization while the late president Anwar al-Sadat was playing on the Hasan 'Izzat wing of the free officers at the same time he was opening lines of contact with the king's palace in order to join the "iron guard" after he received a royal pardon for his political activity.

At the same time, 2d Lt Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, who is 2 years younger than Mubarak, had opened his bridges with the third line bases of the free officers' organization in the al-'Arish area.

This was Mubarak's theory: wait, wait and wait, then release the target.

Everyone was going in a different direction while Mubarak was following the policy of "wait, wait and wait, then release the target."

Why did Mubarak follow this policy?

Pilot

The famous strategist Lyddel Hart says: "The nature of the military service you join affects your thinking and being." This saying is true of Abd-al-Nasir, al-Sadat, Abu Ghazalah and Husni Mubarak.

Anwar al-Sadat was in the signal corps. Perhaps the most distinguishing characteristic in this policies was his ability to undertake secret contacts or send political signals to his enemies and friends alike. Being in a service that is based on ciphering and deciphering affected al-Sadat's political thinking, rendering him "conspiratorial" and inducing him to release statements in the direction of the east at a time when he wanted to move in the direction of the west. As for Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, he is one of the most outstanding artillery officers in the Middle East. It is obvious that his playful, impetuous and popular personality

allowed him to advance at rocket speed in his political and military line of work. It seems that the philosophy of a network of heavy fire that must cover the battlefield in preparation for military action left its marks on the conduct and attitude of Abu Ghazalah who does not tackle any decision without fire preparation [i.e., covering fire].

As for pilot Muhammad Husni Mubarak, he was most influenced by the nature of the force he served in for a quarter of a century, the air force. The pilot primarily must "maneuver" in order to achieve the objective and return safely with the military gear (the aircraft).

Thus, Mubarak learned in his military studies how to maneuver for the purpose of hitting the hostile target and returning safely with the gear.

One of the fundamentals of the Egyptian air force is to keep reiterating to the students the necessity of preserving the safety of the aircraft "since we are a poor country and cannot afford to lose an aircraft." Thus, Mubarak developed a subconscious awareness of the need to preserve safety.

The pilot of a heavy bomber hits fixed or moving targets on the ground, which requires that he, owing to his aircraft's slow maneuverability, circle several times to ensure that the target is within the hit mark, and only then does he empty his load and hit the target.

Thus, Mubarak learned from his service in the air force for a quarter of a century maneuverability, accuracy, caution, movement under protection, and circling to make sure that the target will be totally destroyed.

This is Mubarak. But, what is the target he is dealing with this time? How has the pilot's psychology influenced his style of ruling Egypt?

"Wrong--Not True"

At the end of April 1979, the airplane of Muhammad Husni Mubarak, vice-president of Arab Egypt, left Kuala Lumpur airport after the first official visit to Malaysia by an Egyptian official at this level.

In the cabin of the presidential plane, Husni Mubarak threw a Malaysian English-language newspaper aside in anger and yelled: "Wrong--not true." Dr Usamah al-Baz, Mubarak's office director for political affairs, picked up the newspaper and asked him: "What's up sir, anything wrong?"

Mubarak said: "They said in the newspaper that my plane landed yesterday at exactly 9:40. This is not true. We landed exactly on time at 9:30." He then added sharply: "We were not late."

This incident reflects Mubarak's great attention to detail. Perhaps this is what impels him to do more listening than talking.

President al-Sadat's visitors were often surprised that his vice-president, Husni Mubarak, used to attend many of his meetings and press interviews, holding a small notebook and a pen to write down his comments.

When Mubarak receives any of his guests and ministers, he does not follow the policy of being the talker all the time, but insists on listening or asking questions to have the benefit of the other viewpoint.

Mubarak is not ashamed of the fact that he spent most of his life amid military equipment, airplanes and teaching at the air academy and the "combat staff" during the tripartite aggression, the 1967 war and the October war.

In the 1967 war, Mubarak was able to avoid destruction of his squadron when most of the Egyptian air force was destroyed on the ground by Israel on the morning of 5 June 1967.

Mubarak is not ashamed of the fact that his full military life did not afford him the chance to delve more into the fields of literature, art, philosophy and ideology and politics. Therefore, reporters covering Mubarak, especially when he was vice-president, got used to hear him say audibly to his office director, Usamah al-Baz: "Usamah, I want you to write me a detailed report on this subject because my knowledge of it is limited."

A President Mubarak confidant adds: "It is fortunate that we are living in Egypt in an era of a president who does not see himself as knowing everything or being able to do everything. President Mubarak does not see himself as an inspiring leader or a historic leader. He sees himself as a president working through his aides and issuing his decisions through competent advisory agencies."

Mubarak listens to everyone, but to whom does he respond? Ever since he took over in the wake of his late predecessor's assassination on 6 October 1981, everyone has been wanting to know the true political and class identity of this man. Is he a civilian with a military background, or is he a military man with a civilian front? Is he the Sadatist 'Abd-al-Nasir or the Nasirist Sadat? Is he the one-party man or the multi-party man, or does he believe that ultimately the army is the instrument of government?

They want to know whether he is the toiling classes man, the middle class man or the non-parasitic, uncorrupt capitalist man.

They go back to the most important and serious questions: "Does the president know or does he not know? Does he want or not want? Is he able or not able?"

#### The President Knows and Wants

Mubarak knows the truth about Egypt's crisis, and wants to deal with this crisis. But the question raised by Mubarak himself is "how" can he solve it?

Before we answer the question "how," we must ask: What Egypt does Mubarak want: Egypt of the simple toiling poor or Egypt of the corrupt and evil sycophants? An Egypt of one opinion or a multi-party Egypt?

We can confirm that Mubarak has chosen for himself a system of rule based on the following:

1-A civil system that does not disregard the role of the military institution in the regime's basic orientations.

In other words, the military institution is given the role of "observer" and "guarantor" of keeping the regime close to its main local, Arab and internationally-recognized mainstays.

2-A system of rule based on the multi-party system that basically relies on two strong parties: the National Party, after purging it of its corrupt elements that grew during the previous regime, and the New Wafd Party, as the representative of the opposition.

3-Containment of the religious current. In this area, political practice for the Muslim Brotherhood will be determined through its alliance with the New Wafd Party. As for the Copts, it is expected that a clearly-stipulated reconciliation will occur between the regime and Pope Shanudah, the spiritual leader of the Egyptian Coptic sect. All activities by extremist (Muslim and Coptic) religious groups will be banned and tighter security measures will be taken against any of their secret cells.

4-Setting a clear and specific deadline for the American administration, up until the end of the current year, regarding its policy toward the Middle East, its bias towards Israel and its military aid to Egypt.

In this regard, Cairo sources confirm that Mubarak's recent visit to Washington ended in no agreement between Presidents Mubarak and Reagan. President Mubarak is quoted as saying: "It's no use with Reagan." AL-MAJALLAH sources confirm that during Mubarak's recent visit to Washington, Dr Usamah al-Baz had it out with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. A source close to the president said: "Al-Baz's and Shultz's screaming filled the U.S. Secretary of State's office. Al-Baz assailed Shultz when he opened the dossier of the strategic agreement between the U.S. and Israel. He told Shultz, 'You stab us with this agreement and when we declare our dismay, you get angry!'"

5-Continuation of the policy of striking at the corrupt elements in the centers of power in Egypt. In this respect, Mubarak will not carry out the "one universal blow," but will divide it into phases.

A presidential aide says: "'Abd-al-Nasir was able to settle the struggle within the government when he dealt a blow to Muhammad Najib in March 1954, and Anwar al-Sadat was able to get a hold on power when he directed a blow at the 15 May 1971 group." He added: "But President Mubarak will



not do that in one single blow, but will surely strike Sadat's evil class."

AL-MAJALLAH has learned that the son-in-law of the biggest economic personality in Egypt is under investigation on charges of squandering 5 million Egyptian pounds (about \$4.8 million) from a huge land reclamation project.

AL-MAJALLAH has also learned that President Mubarak gave instructions to proceed with the special procedure of opening the file of a private bank operating from the homes of some senior officials, and headed and supervised by the wife of a senior fiscal official. This bank has business amounting to 50 million Egyptian pounds (about \$45 million).

AL-MAJALLAH has also learned that Mubarak instructed the Administrative Control [Department] and the Socialist Prosecutor to go after any government official, even his closest relatives, whose involvement in any shady fiscal dealings can be proven.

6-Mubarak will announce a new government right after the elections. Furthermore, the upcoming cabinet reshuffle may include changes in sensitive ministries such as local government, defense and foreign affairs.

Mubarak will also focus on giving the specialized technocrats' current a chance for pre-eminence in government. He will also focus his attention on having in the [NDP] party a strong political personality able to defend government policy against the strong opposition currently led by the Wafd.

7-Mubarak will not abrogate or amend the Camp David Accords. However, he will bolster his relations with the Arab world and will make constant endeavors to return to it.

In this regard, it must be emphasized that President Mubarak intimated to several military commands in the Egyptian army that "the issue of Tabah between Egypt and Israel has not yet been resolved and that Egypt still believes and will go on believing that Israel is Egypt's main enemy and what is going on between Egypt and Israel is a temporary truce."

AL-MAJALLAH learned that Mubarak confirmed to several Egyptian military commands that "even if the world turned upside down, we will not get involved in a war we do not want, will not enter a war for which we are not prepared and will not enter a war while the situation on our domestic front and the situations in our Arab and international world do not help any."

#### The President's Will

A source close to President Mubarak says: "There must be a differentiation between the president's will and reality's will."

"President Mubarak wants one thing, but the reality he is responsible for and the enormity of the problems he is facing present other choices."



He adds: "But the president, notwithstanding this, very often does what he wants."

I asked how? The source said: "Look at how he handled the Wafd's rise and return to political life. Mubarak could have opposed it and issued secret instructions to stop the natural development of the judicial struggle over the return of the Wafd, but he didn't. Do you know why? Because he wanted to reform the National Party, or more correctly, strike al-Sadat's group from within and without via three means: first, legal prosecution of corruption cases against party leaders; second, the addition of new elements known for their integrity; and third, the presentation of a new model of another party for non-parasitic capitalism as represented in the Wafd."

The source adds: "Look at his clever equation with the opposition. What Mubarak is cleverly doing is nationalizing social struggles by taming and containing the opposition parties every time a news item is published about the president's purging of the ruling party. In other words, the president contains the leftist opposition by dealing blows to the ugliest forms of the parasitic right."

It is obvious that Mubarak is playing the game of equilibrium between the political forces in Egypt very brilliantly. He restrains the Sadatists through the green light he gives the opposition while restraining the opposition through the powers which the Sadatists still hold.

A question is raised here: "But will this equation be sufficient to face the sizeable interacting problems facing Egypt?"

#### After the Elections, Solution to the Puzzle

What Mubarak will do will be clear after the elections. However, it is certain that Mubarak's choices will not deviate from the afore-mentioned seven points.

Perhaps the most important things Mubarak will face are two issues: first, Cairo's relations with Washington from the economic point of view, and second, how the Wafd will practice the political game.

Regarding his relations with Washington, the size of Egypt's economic dealings in the form of aid from 1974 to the end of last year was \$10 billion and about \$6 billion in military aid.

But the most important tension surrounding these relations is the U.S. administration's concern over the "quasi-socialist" measures being adopted by Mubarak's government to organize the Egyptian national economy. Moreover, the IMF is still pressuring Egypt to reduce the subsidies of basic commodities.

Perhaps what pains Mubarak most personally is that he wants to reduce Egypt's economic dependency on Washington, but, in light of his current Arab relations

and the discontinuance of Arab support, he is unable to achieve this goal.

Regarding the Wafd's political practices, AL-MAJALLAH can confirm that there is a gentlemen's agreement between the regime in Egypt and Pasha Fu'ad Siraj-al-Din, the leader of the Wafd Party, to "Americanize" the Egyptian political system in the manner of the U.S. two-party system: one party rules and the other opposes. The equation is based on the Wafd's undertaking its opposition role, but without infringing upon the president's and the government's legitimacy and legality.

Informed sources in Cairo confirm that the Wafd will become more of a rival party than an opposition party because the social forces it represents are the same ones represented by the NDP.

#### The Silent President

Next 5 May, Mubarak will celebrate his 56th birthday quietly.

He will recontemplate his term that will be renewed during the session of the next parliament, which will be formed from the ruling party and the opposition, which indications confirm will win at least one-third of the parliament.

Mubarak will sit alone in his 10-room home in al-'Urubah Palace to go over his calculations of the future.

Perhaps the most important calculations of the future are: Will Mubarak keep up the policy of the cautious pilot and slow gradual change, or will he become reckless and do what politicians do, deal one big blow after the elections?

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## CHANGES IN ECONOMIC INDICATORS EXAMINED

Casablanca MAROC-MAGAZINE in French 3-9 Jun 84 pp 13-14

[Text] Gross Domestic Product

					Change (in Percent) 1983/1982			
	<u>Imports</u>		<u>Exports</u>		<u>Imports</u>		<u>Exports</u>	
Q: Quantities in 1,000 Tons	CIF		FOB					
V: Values in Millions of Dirhams	[Cost, Insurance and Freight]		[Free on Board]					
	<u>Q</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>Q</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>Q</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>Q</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Sector</u>								
Food, Spirits and Tobacco	2,310	3,796	1,201	3,724	-2.7	+8.6	-8.5	+23.4
Energy and Lubricants	4,663	7,029	324	584	-	-0.5	+10.2	+10.4
Unfinished Products, Animal and Vegetable	645	1,808	127	374	-18.6	-2.7	+25.7	+37.5
Unfinished Products, Mineral	1,453	1,398	15,042	4,012	+28.5	+18.5	-2.1	-2.5
Semi-Finished Products	1,406	4,932	1,780	3,772	-6.0	+2.0	+43.3	+41.9
Finished Agricultural Equipment and Indus- trial Products	137	4,854	35	80	-36.0	-15.4	+700.0	+17.6
Finished Consumer Products	60	1,772	37	2,174	-13.0	-2.4	+5.7	+22.3
Industrial Gold	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	10,675	25,591	18,546	14,724	-0.6	-1.5	+1.1	+18.4

Unlike 1982, during which year economic activity showed clear improvement, the year under review was marked by a much lower growth rate (+0.6 percent) due to appreciable declines in agriculture and public works which were not offset by the increase in the other sectors.

The agricultural value added decreased by 6 percent, especially as a result of the decline in the harvest of the four principal cereals, which during that season reached just 35.7 million quintals, compared to 49.1 million quintals in

1981/1982, or -27.2 percent. Leguminous plant production, on the other hand, increased 23.9 percent from one season to the next, from 22 million quintals to 2.7 million quintals. As for citrus fruit production, it was lower, although the quantities exported managed to remain at the same level as those of the preceding season.

Stock breeding, like agricultural, has felt the effects of the drought. The total number of livestock went from 16.27 million head in November 1982 to 15.65 million in November 1983, a reduction of 3.7 percent. The sheep flock was the most affected.

As for the building and public works sector, it was unable to maintain the trend toward a revival that was seen in 1982. The value added in this sector declined 10 percent that year as a result of the scarcity of transactions involving public works. The decline would have been more significant if it had not been for the relatively good behavior of construction.

Concerning the remaining sectors, they recorded more or less appreciable improvement. The processing industries improved their production somewhat over that of 1982 (+1.5 percent). But this improvement is quite limited, because in 1982, industrial production fell 2.8 percent. The change differed from one field to another, as we see in the sectorial analysis (part three).

At the structural level, the year 1983 was characterized by a relative strengthening of the tertiary's share (61.6 percent against 60 percent) and a slight decline in that of the primary (13.7 percent against 14.4 percent), while the secondary sector's share remained about 24.7 percent.

The austerity adopted under the financial reform law had repercussions on the level at which capital was created, in particular in the public works sector, where investment fell about 30 percent in relation to the preceding fiscal year.

On the other hand, in construction the creation of capital increased 17 percent. The acquisition of equipment and tools, which is an ongoing occurrence with business firms, has maintained the same level as the year before.

Actually, the FBCF [expansion unknown] was 21 percent lower in value than in 1982. This would be calculated in current terms at 19,930 MDH [million dirhams], thus constituting 21 percent of the GDP [gross domestic product].

#### Foreign Trade

At the same time that the condition of the public finances was improving, an appreciable reduction in the trade deficit was seen, thanks to a slight decline in value of imports and a clear expansion of exports. In fact, the measures decreed on 9 March 1983 made it possible to slow imports down, especially in the early months after the measures went into effect, although they did not fail to create some problems for a number of activity sectors.

Imports first cost the country 25,591 MDH for 10.7 million tons, thus showing a slight reduction in value (-1.5 percent) as well as in volume (-0.6 percent). According to the broad categories, we find food at the top, as well as domestic raw products and semi-finished products, while at the bottom we find finished products, consumer as well as equipment. Purchases of energy products remained the same.

# Gross Creation of Fixed Capital

<u>PIB in Constant Prices Based on 1969 (in MDH)</u>	<u>1982</u>		<u>1983</u> (Estimates)		<u>Changes in</u>
	<u>Share in %</u>		<u>Share in %</u>		
Agriculture	3,961	11.8	3,720	11.0	-6.0
Mining industry	870	2.6	913	2.7	+5.0
Energy	1,457	4.4	1,515	4.5	+4.0
Processing industries	5,364	16.0	5,444	16.2	+1.5
Building and public works	1,504	4.5	1,354	4.0	-10.0
Transportation	1,655	4.9	1,680	5.0	+1.5
Trade	5,903	17.6	5,844	17.3	-1.0
Services	4,648	13.9	4,718	14.0	+1.5
Duties and taxes on imports	1,909	5.7	1,909	5.7	-
Government offices	6,226	18.6	6,600	19.6	+6.0
Total PIB	33,497	100.0	33,697	100.0	+0.6

The total figure for food was 3,796 MDH and was an increase of 8.6 percent over the previous fiscal year, influenced by increased importation of wheat, tobacco and tea in particular. It represented 14.8 percent of the total amount for purchases abroad.

Concerning energy products, near stagnation may be noted, in quantities as well as in value. With 7,029 MDH, importation of energy products constituted 27.5 percent of all imports and absorbed 47.7 percent of revenues procured by means of importation. For raw products of animal and vegetable origin, the purchases (1,808 MDH) shrank 2.7 percent; they involved vegetable oils for a total of 563 MDH (-0.7 percent); unfinished wood, 435 MDH (-19 percent); cotton, 168 MDH (+16 percent), wool and pelts, 144 MDH (+23 percent); artificial textile fibers, 98 MDH, etc.

As far as raw mineral products are concerned, outlays increased appreciably to total 1,398 MDH (+18.5 percent, essentially because of purchases of raw sulfur used by the chemical industry for stabilizing phosphates. Sulfur imports amounted to 1,349 tons for a value of 1,043 MDH, or +31.4 percent and +25.8 percent respectively. Synthetic rubber imports cost 52 MDH, or +16 percent, and importation of synthetic textile fibers amounted to 219 MDH, the same level as a year ago.

The remaining imports involve manufactured goods. The value of purchases effected in this category reached 11,558 MDH, which was 6.3 percent below 1982, accounting for 45.2+ of all imports.

The setback at this level is found in all categories except semi-finished products, which cost 4,932 MDH for an increase of 2 percent. Particular emphasis will be placed on the increase in purchases of chemical products, artificial plastic substances, paper and cartons, disinfectants, copper and aluminum rods and sheets

As for finished agricultural equipment products, the reduction mostly involves tractors, including [text omitted] and agricultural tools totaling 163 MDH, on the other hand, rose 15.6 percent.

As far as industrial durable goods are concerned (1,772 MDH, or -17 percent), there were only a few products whose import value rose. These consisted of food industry machinery, aerodynes, electric cutting devices, railroad rolling stock and boilers.

This leaves finished consumer products, where there appears an increase in purchases of private cars (309 MDH, or +5.5 percent) at a time when that industry was experiencing an additional year of recession. This is also the case with finished paper and paper goods (191 MDH) and artificial synthetic fiber fabrics (128 MDH). At the bottom we find CKD [expansion unknown] replacement parts, medicines (191 MDH), radio and television receiving sets (154 MDH), bicycles and motorcycles (38 MDH).

Exports reached 14,724 MDH, an increase of 18.4 percent over 1982, attributable to all products except mining products, whose shipped tonnage fell 2 percentage and whose revenues fell 2.5 percent. Phosphate sales in particular involved nearly 14 million tons for a turnover of 3,331 MDH. Food products rose 1.5 percent, fresh tomatoes (233 MDH), potatoes (115 MDH), fresh vegetables (104 MDH), canned fish (498 MDH), crustaceans, mollusks and shellfish (661 MDH) and canned vegetables (328 MDH). Moreover, the revenues from fresh fish (19[illegible] MDH), fruit juice and jam (69 MDH) and wine (41 MDH) fell more or less appreciably.

Under semi-finished products, sales of phosphate-derived substances forged ahead. Exports of natural and chemical fertilizers provided revenues of 920 MDH, a 17-percent expansion over 1982. Phosphoric acid revenues, with 2,128 MDH, rose 34.2 percent from one year to the next.

Finally, concerning finished consumer goods, the overall expansion continued. There was nevertheless an increase in ready-made clothing (683 MDH or +24 percent), carpets (374 MDH or 27 percent), hosiery articles (239 MDH or +24 percent) and shoes (194 MDH or 15 percent), and a decrease in leather bags and travel articles (44 MDH or -23 percent) and cotton fabric (54 MDH or -7 percent).

When all is said and done, the trade deficit, evaluated at 10,867 MDH, fell back 19.8 percent in comparison to the deficit recorded in 1982 (13.55 billion dirhams). The ratio of imports to exports rose to 57.5 percent against 47.9 percent in 1982.

## The Balance of Payments

<u>In Millions of Current Dirhams</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>Change in Percent</u> <u>1983/1982</u>
Equipment and tools	8,703	8,703	-
Building	6,022	7,046	+17.0
Public works	4,926	3,448	-30.0
Development and planting	402	402	-
Total (1)	20,363	19,930	-2.1

The reduction in the trade deficit thus obtained had a favorable effect on the balance of payments. Its beneficial influence was also reinforced on the one hand by the 32-percent expansion in tourist revenues, which were estimated at 2,900 MDH, and on the other hand by the 20-percent increase in transfers from our workers who have emigrated, which reached 6,134 MDH.

The reduction in foreign aid might have counterbalanced these positive effects had it not been for the rescheduling of payments for part of the foreign debt, which was obtained during the last months of the year.

Taking all of these factors into account, the current deficit was brought back to 7 billion dirhams as compared to 11.4 billion in 1982. The total deficit in the balance of payments, however, was on the order of 500 MDH, against a surplus of 1,168 MDH the previous year.

### Approved Industrial Investments

There were 383 industrial projects amounting to nearly 2,266 DH [dirhams] initiated under the new code designed to encourage investment, which became effective on 17 January 1983 (58 projects approved during January 1983 were approved under the 1973 code).

Forty-eight percent of these investments went for new enterprises, for a total of 1,100 billion DH, involving 287 projects; the remaining 1,166 million dirhams involved expansion of 546 existing firms.

Over all, the investments approved in 1983 declined 15.5 percent in relation to 1982. This is explained basically by two fundamental reasons:

- No agreement was signed in 1983, whereas in 1982 no less than nine were initiated;
- No large government project was begun in 1983, whereas the year 1982 saw the launching of SUCRAL [expansion unknown] for an investment of 455 MDH, and the expansion of Maroc-Phosphore for an investment of 384 MDH.

It is also noteworthy that the number of investments initiated in 1983 fell 10 percent below 1982 and the number of jobs created (26,500) also regressed from one year to the next.

Finally, we point out that although the total investment showed a tendency to decline, the contribution of the private sector, on the other hand, registered a significant increase over 1982, thus going from 1,759 to 2,175 MDH, for an increase of 23.6 percent. Participation by national promoters, calculated at 1,720 MDH, accounts for 76 percent of the total envelope and foreign private participation (455 MDH) more than doubled over that of the previous fiscal year; the public sector's share, however, was very weak: 90 dirhams, or 4 percent of the total.

The distribution by sector shows a clear predominance for agro-industry, which drains off, with 29 percent of the projects approved, more than 42 percent of the total investment.

In second place, we find the chemical and parachechemical sector, with 30 percent of the projects and 27 percent of the total amount invested.

Next, in almost equal proportions, come the textile and leather sectors and the mechanical and electrical sectors, with 22 and 19 percent, respectively, of the approved projects and 16 and 15 percent, respectively, of the investment envelope.

#### Public Finances

A clear improvement in the condition of the public finances was achieved. The ordinary deficit was limited to 650 MDH because of an increase in expenditures that was less significant than the increase in revenues. The total deficit of the treasury was brought back from 10.5 billion dirhams to 8.5 billion, or 8.5 percent of the GDP (against 12.5 percent in 1982).

This improvement in budgetary equilibrium was obtained with the help of austerity measures taken within the framework of the corrected budget that became effective in August of the year under review. This structural readjustment policy that is being pursued in 1984 is aimed at releasing, over the middle term, a normal surplus, and by observing financial orthodoxy, reducing the total deficit to a level compatible with available financing possibilities and possibilities of unharmed monetary creation. The objective to be attained in 1984 is to bring the total deficit back to 6 percent of the GDP.

#### The Cost of Living

The rate of inflation was appreciably lowered this year. As measured by the average monthly index established at 276.2, it comes to 6.2 percent, against 10.5 percent in 1982 and 12.5 percent in 1981. This remission of the inflation was obtained by means of the overall stability that characterized prices during the first quarter and the weak rise in the prices of food products that prevailed throughout the year.

In fact, the average index for food was established at 294.3, thus recording an annual rise of only 4.8 percent against 13 percent one year earlier, and even 14.9 percent in 1981.



For clothing products, the average index comes to 229.7 for an increase in prices short of the national average (+5.2 percent).

The other headings, on the other hand, experienced rather elevated rates: 7.8 percent for housing, 10.2 percent for maintenance, hygiene and health and 9.2 percent for transportation, leisure and miscellaneous.

This reduction in the pace of price escalation is found in all cities, without exception. In Casablanca, for example, the average general index is established at 297.7, yielding an inflation rate of only 5.5 percent, against 9.5 percent in 1982. The rates recorded in the other cities were 7 percent in Fez, 7.9 percent in Tetouan, 6.9 percent in Kenitra, 6.3 percent in Marrakech, 6.6 percent in Oujda and 6.3 percent in Agadir.

#### Currency and Credit

The total amount of the monetary and near-monetary liquid assets of business firms and individuals rose as of 31 December 1983 to 46,320 MDH, thus marking an annual increase of 7,073 MDH or 18 percent, a rate that is clearly higher than that of the preceding fiscal year, which was only 11 percent. The acceleration observed from the end of one fiscal year to the next involved all components of the monetary mass.

Paper currency was calculated at 13,636 MDH and increased 13.4 percent (8.1 percent in 1982), credit money, 22,506 MDH, increased 14.8 percent (against 11.4 percent). Near-currency, 10,178 MDH, increased even more rapidly at a rate of 33.6 percent (against 15 percent). Near-currency constituted 22 percent of the entire monetary mass.

In the area of offsets, a strengthening was observed in claims against the Treasury, which explains the creation of currency as high as 53.2 percent as compared to 48.9 percent in 1982, a setback in net foreign assets and a slow increase in savings credits.

Net foreign assets were calculated as of 31 December 1983 at 1,793 MDH, 497 MDH or 21.7 percent below their level at the end of December 1982.

Claims on the Treasury by the banking system, business firms and individuals were evaluated at 25,086 MDH, marking an increase of 5,505 MDH or 28.1 percent, whereas one year earlier they had declined 4.2 percent.

8946

CSO: 4519/180

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER DISCUSSES ISLAMIZATION, STATE OF EMERGENCY

Kuwait AL-MUJTAMA' in Arabic No 670, 8 May 84 pp 21-23

[Interview With Yasin 'Umar al-Imam, Speaker of Sudanese National People's Assembly, by Khalid Idris: "Dialogue on Political Events in Sudan"]

[Text] Successive events have taken place in the Sudanese political arena recently. Considering that the Islamic Shari'ah decisions are the main axis of these events and the change that has contributed to boosting the tendencies supporting and opposed to these steps at the same time, AL-MUJTAMA' has conducted the following interview with Yasin 'Umar al-Imam, one of the most prominent workers in the Islamic sphere, the ex-chief editor of the daily AL-AYYAM and the speaker of the Sudanese National People's Assembly, on the events that have taken place in the Sudanese arena from the time of declaration of the Shari'ah laws until declaration of martial law.

[Question] What is the extent of the government's tendency to establish Islam in the various aspects of the state and what accomplishments have been made in this respect?

[Answer] We are not as much concerned with the state's tendencies as we are with what it has done and accomplished. Thanks to God, may He be praised, Islamic laws have been established in Sudan and these laws are the beginning of establishing an Islamic state in Sudan. The Sudanese People's Assembly has approved several Islamic laws, including the penal laws, the civil laws, the law of transactions and the principles of judgment and evidence. Change in the fiscal laws has also been started through establishment of the alms tax law.

The fight against crime, which is a social manifestation, has also become clear and obvious and the crime rates and aspects of corruption have diminished.

We hope, God permitting, that Sudan will become a lighthouse for Islam in the African and Arab area.

[Question] Some people believe that the state is not fully serious in its trend toward Islam, as evidenced by the failure to replace some officials with an unclean past, in addition to the slow pace in implementing some other aspects.

[Answer] I do not know what is meant by the lack of seriousness because serious efforts are being made by the institutions in the laws. Some of them have already been Islamized. This shows that Islam is not just a political slogan but a slogan followed by action and application.

On the other hand, the destruction of alcohol worth millions of pounds is another indication of this seriousness, and so is the application of the religious penalties to individuals in positions of responsibility.

[Question] What is taken as evidence of the lack of seriousness is: first, President Numayri's retention of a number of officials around him who have a well-known past and, second, suspension of implementation of the Shari'ah penalties as of the first days of their implementation. What is your opinion?

[Answer] It is well known that each country inevitably has its share of insincere people. When the Islamic laws were declared, it was inevitable that there would be those who do not want them.

Moreover, the procrastination in implementing these laws comes from some people who are not convinced by these laws.

Besides, how long is Sudan's history with these laws? Several years are required for the sound implementation of a single law, such as the traffic law, and for the experience of this law to stabilize. So how can numerous and varied aspects of the state's laws and methods be entirely changed within 6 months? It has taken several months to instruct and train the workers to carry out the legal [religious] punishment for thefts. As for the punishment for drinking alcohol, it has been carried out against a number of people. Insofar as the adultery law is concerned, adultery is difficult to prove and the officials are doing their duty for the progress of these laws.

The most outstanding event to take place at the outset of this period--an event unprecedented in modern history--was to gather all prisoners and criminals in Sudan's jails, tell them that they had been tried under a non-Islamic law and release 13,000 prisoners to begin their life anew. Repeaters will be tried under God's law.

Despite this, crime rates have dropped by nearly 40 percent. This is an international record.

[Question] Regarding the political conditions generally, the news agencies are circulating the news of riots, rebellion and so forth. What is the true nature of what is happening in the Sudanese arena and what is your evaluation of the events?

[Answer] First, we must ask ourselves: Where do these news reports come from and who has gathered and evaluated them because a news report is evaluated by its source and by this source's position toward the circle he reports about? These reports come from two sources: either the

Christian western or leftist eastern bloc media. Each has its reasons for hostility toward Sudan, namely the cultural revival led by Sudan in the third world. This is an intellectual, not racist or other, dispute over the revival of the Islamic culture because the Islamic world had been a milking cow easily led by the other culture. Sudan has embarked now on steps to rid itself of the yoke of western civilization in a manner that draws attention and encourages other countries, especially since a process of the application of Islamic thought has emerged.

On the other hand, Sudan is leading economic changes embodied in the non-usurious system in which it has succeeded brilliantly, considering that there are now four Islamic banks (private sector) and two more which will be opened in the next few days. There are, furthermore, four public sector Islamic banks. Four other government banks which have not yet been transformed to the non-usurious system are now in the process of this transformation. Of course, this rate is unequalled in the world today.

The danger this action poses to western economy is a very serious danger because all the Islamic and Arab capital which used to head to the west will change its direction toward investment within the framework of the Islamic economy now that this economy has been proven to produce a successful return.

As for the trouble in Sudan, they also exist in many other countries. If transportation, factories and establishments are brought to a halt in Britain, Germany, the United States or France, this is considered normal. But if such a thing happens in Sudan, it is considered a failure!

As for the occurrence of acts of violence in Southern Sudan, such acts occur in the heart of London at present, in Italy and in numerous other countries, despite these countries' ability and resources to combat crime in comparison to Sudan's ability and resources. Why is Sudan considered exceptional in this regard? Moreover, acts of violence persisted in Southern Sudan for nearly 20 years before national unity was achieved. So why is attention focused on these acts only these days? Moreover, it is normal for enemies to depict any tribal disputes or troubles in Sudan as political troubles.

Sudan has immensely long borders with a number of neighboring countries ruled by regimes hostile to Islam. Given this fact, why is the occurrence of acts of violence in Sudan denounced so strongly! It is my belief that this denunciation has its reason, namely to launch an international propaganda and economic campaign by all the major powers because of the Islamic changes [in Sudan]. It is my assessment that the events happening in Sudan are normal for a third world country with a vast area, poor resources and diverse tribes.

[Question] Concerning external pressure, we notice that the rapprochement between Sudan and the United States is still strong, even though we are convinced that the United States does not approve of Islamic laws. If what we are thinking is correct about the United States not being convinced of the seriousness and soundness of these steps, what is your analysis of this opinion?

[Answer] A number of Arab countries have relations with the United States that are dozens of times stronger than Sudan's relations with the United States. As for the dispatch of the AWACS aircraft to Sudan, similar planes have been sent to several Arab countries. Besides, the United States, as a superpower, maintains its international and regional security and has conflicts with other forces. Therefore, the dispatch of the AWACS plane to Sudan does not mean U.S. support for the Islamic Shari'ah but rather means safeguarding relations with Sudan, despite its present situation, within the framework of U.S. strategy and its political and security equations.

As for the aid the United States advances to Sudan, it is intended not to let Sudan fall into the hands of others, such as Russia. However, the United States does not like what is happening in Sudan and expects at any moment to set up the exact opposite to what is happening in Sudan by putting pressure on President Numayri or by exerting political pressure, such as suspending Chevron's oil prospecting operations by refusing to give it security protection in Sudan. This arouses suspicions. The same thing has happened with the French in Jonglei Canal. Therefore, the United States deals in the manner that preserves its interests. But it must learn that Islam is the wish of the Muslim Sudanese people and that it must deal with them accordingly. We also hope that we in Sudan, both Muslims and non-Muslims, will be brothers because God says: "There is no coercion in religion and find out what is right from what is wrong." Moreover, the Sudanese people will not accept any pressure or attempts against our faith. If there are any endeavors to change our law and our course, we will not stand idle and the people will accept tightening their belts and enduring pressure in defense of their faith and their religion. No economic or military pressure will dissuade them from doing so.

We must also ask: Why are the U.S. media working against Sudan and circulating untrue reports that consider the Islamic Shari'ah something inhuman? What is the purpose behind this?

[Question] But we find that the Sudanese forces are still being heavily trained by the Americans?

[Answer] Yes, the training is there. Earlier, the Sudanese army was trained by Russia. Here also we must understand that declaring an Islamic state does not mean such a state's estrangement from the world. Rather, it must have relations with the United States, Russia, Britain and other countries and "God does not prohibit you from being charitable and just to those who have not fought your religion and have not driven you away

from your homes, and God loves the just." We are the friends of whomever does not fight our religion, attack our territory or undermine our sovereignty. We treat him equally and deal with him economically and militarily within the framework of just international charters and traditions.

[Question] Have any Egyptian forces entered Sudan?

[Answer] No Egyptian forces whatsoever have entered Sudan. Those who have entered are military technicians who came after the Omdurman Radio station had been hit and they have come within the framework of the joint defense treaty because there is an Arab military treaty and a bilateral military treaty with Egypt.

[Question] Why the emergency law declared by President Numayri recently and what are the motives and objectives behind it?

[Answer] The motives and objectives of declaring the emergency law are supposed to be understood from the speech accompanying the declaration of the law in which President Numayri stated that these are special decrees for speedy steps because the law enables him to make decisions quickly. This decree was followed by large-scale steps and changes in the state's political and administrative positions. Some of these changes have been very important and strategic in preparing for the swift implementation of the Islamic decrees and for removal of the persons who do not believe in it and who pose a major obstruction with their positions. I believe that this is an important step, if followed by reform. In his speech, President Numayri declared that there is some sort of indifference and procrastination in securing food for the citizens, in addition to the smuggling and the high prices which are either phony or the result of international inflation. Moreover, there are the plots and intrigues which some countries are trying to hatch against the country's interests through their media or through certain individuals.

Therefore, the emergency law has been imposed to serve the interests of the ordinary citizen and not against these interests or against the Islamic Shari'ah. Besides, this law does not mean application of the Shari'ah laws by force but rather means creating the right atmosphere for the implementation of these laws and urging the administrative and executive agencies to absorb and implement these laws in the right manner. This law is, perhaps, tantamount to breaking the curtains and barriers standing in the face of implementation in Sudan's various areas, considering that the president has underlined the political organization's failure to comprehend this stage. The president has also pointed out his wish to lead the Sudanese nation toward the rapid, real and sound implementation of God's laws so that the enemies or the reluctant may not stand in his way.

[Question] As a result of the previous application of the emergency law and of the excessive powers it gives the government, peoples in the various parts of the world have come to resent the declaration of such a law and

have developed firm positions against it. Don't you think that the motives and objectives you have noted can be achieved without declaration of the emergency law?

[Answer] There are countries where the ordinary situation is a state of emergency without declaration of the emergency law, considering that the liberties, the right to criticize the ruler and the right to stage strikes are nonexistent. Whoever dares do so [criticize ruler or engage in strikes] in some Arab countries and third world countries will never be heard from again and his whereabouts will never be known. Despite this, nobody has spoken about these countries or criticized them. Thus, some regimes constitute a permanent state of emergency.

In Sudan, strikes are staged and criticism is voiced. As for the recent state of emergency, it is a special case. Naturally, anything exceptional is unacceptable and there is a certain view against the state of emergency. But as declared, the extra emergency powers given to security [forces] in Sudan are to be used only if conditions dictate their use and they are not to be used generally and comprehensively. I personally do not encourage the state of emergency because I believe that Islam always spreads under ordinary conditions. However, the imperialist propaganda onslaught and the infiltration occurring in the vast Sudan requires a quick decision. Naturally, it is expected that some people will exploit the situation. There was such exploitation in the era of the prophet, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, when he sent some of his officials to collect the alms tax. Man cannot be raised and educated in months. Time is needed to achieve this. I am not demanding that the state of emergency be continued. Rather, I am saying that there are justifications for it, else it would have been a wrong and unjustifiable step.

AL-MUJTAMA': In conclusion, we deeply thank Yasin 'Umar al-Imam for his frank answers on what is happening in Sudan and on the state of emergency in particular.

8494

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ALLEGED SHIPMENT OF WEST GERMAN ARMS ON GREEK TRUCKS

Athens ELEVTHEROTYPIA in Greek 7 Jun 84 p 3

[Article by G. Evtykhidis]

[Text] Without knowing it, Greek tractor-trailer drivers have gotten embroiled in the Iran-Iraq war, in that at the risk of their lives they have been transporting hundreds of tons of weapons and ammunition to the contending parties.

This is the complaint made to the ELEVTHEROTYPIA by a Salonica "TIR" truck driver. But he asked that his anonymity be preserved, "because it is unknown who are lurking behind this affair and what consequences he himself would suffer."

This tractor-trailer driver personally experienced such a situation, and he asserts that other comrades of his as well must have participated without wanting to in the game which is being played in this field, and must have kept their mouths shut out of fear.

According to what he said, on 28 April five Greek "TIR" trucks started out from Munich, West Germany, supposedly in order to transport to Iraq spare parts for automobiles and various types of machinery.

Greek Companies

Of these trucks, three belong to Salonica transport companies and the remaining two belong to companies located in a provincial city in central Makedonia.

The drivers, who have taken many trips to Asia and thus are experienced and skilled, receive the consignment notes, the vehicles are cleared at the local customs, and the convoy begins its arduous journey.

On entering Yugoslavia, the drivers decide to stop over at Salonica for a night and to continue towards Iraq via Turkey.

"When we reached this place" (Editor's Note: Salonica), our interlocutor says to us, "we parked the convoy in the customs area, at the port. The



requisite search was made of our papers, the cargo was cleared again without being inspected, and at daybreak on 3 May we started for Turkey."

With nothing unforeseen having happened on the way, the Greek trucks arrived at Baghdad on 13 May and put up at the main custom-house.

"We arrived at night in Baghdad," continues the tractor-trailer driver. "Almost immediately we noticed a movement of soldiers which was unusual compared to other times. The armed soldiers surrounded our vehicles and took us to a remote spot in the area. We ourselves were at a loss as to what to do, and we said to ourselves that something very serious was happening. Finally we were steered straight. They let us watch the unloading, perhaps because they believed that we were in on the scheme, and then we discovered that the spare parts were all types of rifles and ammunition."

What do you think happened?

"Obviously some West German company sold weapons to Iraq, clandestinely or not, and we were 'exploited.'"

Do you believe that the companies which you belong to know what you were transporting?

"Perhaps yes, perhaps no. These companies accept orders, and we execute them. In any case, it is rather unlikely that they would know anything, because this business is fraught with a thousand and one dangers both for them and for us drivers."

Our interlocutor, who refused to reveal the names of his four comrades so that we could cross-check the information, believes that the great problem for the tractor-trailer drivers is that of what they should do from here on out. The danger of possible new incidents of this sort is great, but also unemployment in this occupation is "beating us down."

12114

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## BUTHAYNAH SHARIF ON BANNED WOMEN'S GROUP, TIES TO KURDISH REBELS

Helsinki KANSAN UUTISET in Finnish 19 May 84 pp 40-41,51

[Article by Kirsti Honkasalo: "Background of Persian Gulf War: Fighting Also Engaged in Inside Iraq"]

[Text] "Iraqi women are no longer afraid; they have already lost those dearest to them, so their own lives are no longer so dear to them.

"In Iraq women have always been oppressed and their fight for their rights is tied to the fight for the liberation of the country, democracy and peace. In like manner the Kurds' fight for their rights and autonomy is also linked with the situation in the whole country."

This is what Buthaynah Sharif, a representative of the banned women's organization who visited Finland to report on Iraqi women's struggle to end oppression in their country, says.

It is a bit difficult to conceive of the notion of Moslem women in arms, as guerrilla fighters in the mountains. Visions of the exhausting war between Iraq and Iran and the seemingly endless national struggle of the Kurds come to mind, but what may be happening behind the scenes of the war?

Iraq has striven to present a picture of a prosperous, modern Arab state with emancipated women, but what is underneath the smooth surface, which Finnish construction workers and diplomats too among thousands of other Western emissaries have come into contact with?

Diplomatic circles complain that in Iraq they under no circumstances want to have anything to do with the Iraqis. And the ruler, President Saddam Husayn's, tight screen has seen to it that detrimental news reports have not to any appreciable extent been leaked to the outside world. And it is easy to label even every little item a lie.

### Discipline Through Torture

A friendly, modest-looking and stylish woman in her forties opened the door to the hotel room. She was Buthaynah Sharif, who is on a tour of Europe to tell people about the situation in her country and the activities of the banned

opposition. And once again I fell under the spell of the profound respect I feel for them whenever I hear and see these women, that same dignity they exude, no matter whether they come from El Salvador, Nicaragua, Chile or now Iraq: not a trace of hatred or bitterness, missing from their faces, expressions, gestures and voices any fanaticism and rage.

Nor did we have to really question Buthaynah Sharif. She knew what to say. She is a member of the country's oldest and well-known, although at present banned, women's organization, the Iraqi Women's League, which organizes women into an opposition all over the country.

"We are struggling to obtain a democratic administration for ourselves, one that would end the war, guarantee democratic rights to all the different religions, ethnic groups and political opinions and grant the Kurds autonomy."

A picture of terror of an Iraq that used to bear the stamp of such an exotic country before begins to take shape: "The ruling Ba'ath Party maintains an ultranationalistic system of oppression. The activities of all other parties and organizations are banned. Thousands of people have been imprisoned, murdered or tortured to death. Women are tortured before the eyes of their children, as are also children before the eyes of their mothers. At the English Medical Institute they have ascertained that some women have been poisoned with a poison called thallium. Several hundred people have been missing for years now and there is no information at all as to their fate."

Reports disclose jarring tales of mothers who have been summoned to collect their sons' almost unrecognizably mangled bodies from piles of bodies at the morgue. Amnesty International reports also tell of tortures, murders and disappearances.

According to law, torture is banned in Iraq and Iraq has also ratified international agreements on the banning of torture and the protection of people against cruelty. Iraqi officials have admitted to the Amnesty International delegation that they know of sporadic instances of torture and have assured them that they are campaigning against them.

#### Ba'ath's Monarchy

For some 20 years now Buthaynah Sharif has devoted herself to the struggle to free the people of Iraq and especially women from oppression. She was trained to be a chemist and was an instructor at the University of Baghdad. When the Ba'ath Party assumed power in 1963, she was suspended from her position for 6 years and fled the country. The new rulers immediately effected major purges. One of the victims of that mass murder was Buthaynah's husband.

At the end of the 1960's and in the early 1970's the Ba'ath attempted to court the people's favor by passing a few progressive laws involving land ownership conditions and workers and women's status. Now they are still in existence only on paper.

"In the early 1970's they also experimented with a popular coalition which included representatives of the communists and Kurds in addition to the Ba'ath. But in 1975 the Ba'ath again took a tight grip on the reins and disciplined dissidents. First they began a campaign of oppression against the Kurds: They began to Arabize them by driving them out of their home districts into new Arab villages of the same type the Americans at the time established in Vietnam.

Buthaynah Sharif's judgment on Iraq's present policy is most unambiguous. If she feels no mercy toward them, neither did Saddam Husayn.

"When Husayn became president in 1979, the first thing he did was to execute 31 army officers and enlisted men whom he suspected of being opponents. The activities of all parties and organizations other than the Ba'ath were banned by law. Insubordinate individuals could ready themselves for the death sentence. Oppression was made official by harnessing the entire machinery of state and the army in the service of the Ba'ath.

"Ba'ath policy is like religion in Iran, except that Khomeyni reports on what is being done. On the contrary, Saddam Husayn bans everything and strives to present an entirely different picture of the country to the outside world. According to him, in Iraq they pursue a progressive policy and are constructing a socialist system. It's not true, everything is pure ultranationalism," Buthaynah Sharif asserted. "The Ba'ath has gotten farther and farther away from the people and Iraq has also become internationally isolated because of the war it launched against Iran."

#### Forced Support for Destruction

The Iraqi-Iranian War has now been raging for over 3 and a half years and there is no end in sight. The Iraqis already have a million men tied up in the war and the number of dead, wounded and prisoners of war is now approaching a half a million. Iranian losses are probably even greater. It is estimated that about 100,000 Iraqis are avoiding the war in the mountains.

Even before the war 200,000 Shiite Moslems were expelled from the country because they were suspected of being dangerous supporters of Iran. Sixty percent of Iraq's Moslems are Shiite Moslems whereas the Ba'ath Party and power is in Sunnite Moslem hands. Buthaynah Sharif asserted that the Iraqis are not the same sort of revolutionary religious fanatics as the Iranians, so that an Iranian attempt to forcefully introduce its revolution into Iraq would scarcely have succeeded.

The material destruction caused by the war is also enormous: Iraq's as well as Iran's economy has completely collapsed. At one time risen to being OPEC's third-largest oil country, Iraq is today up to its ears in debts owed to both the Arab countries and the Western countries. Everything that is available is invested in arms.

"The Ba'ath Party has launched a massive campaign to demonstrate that people supposedly support the war," Buthaynah Sharif said. "Especially the women's organization of the party speaks on behalf of the war. On radio and television,

for example, a woman appears who has lost her son in the war, saying that she is ready to surrender three other sons for the war as well. People are also pressured to support the war financially. The government has already collected 50 tons of gold and money in addition from people, supposedly as gifts to cover war expenditures. They are not, however, real gifts; everyone gets a receipt for his 'gift,' which he then has to present when he takes care of his normal activities.

"For example, the receipt must be shown when the birth of a child is recorded or a child is enrolled in school. Not even the purchase of indispensable necessities can be conducted without that receipt. In this way the government tries to obtain proof for its claim that people are behind its war policy.

"Because of the war, workers have lost all of the gains they had achieved, such as an 8-hour workday, insurance and transportation coverage. They have to work 2 hours of unpaid overtime. Half of their wages are being cut to cover the cost of the war. At the same time the value of the Iraqi dinar has dropped to half of what it was and prices are rising at a dizzying rate. Women are forced to take jobs to replace men who are off waging war, but the women get only 60 percent of the men's wages. In our opinion, this doesn't advance equality for women, especially since they have not been able to arrange for child care either," Buthaynah Sharif said.

"Iraq attacked Iran because Saddam Husayn wanted to promote himself as a regional sovereign and believed that Iran, mixed up in its revolution, would be an easy target to crush. The war has lasted as long as it has purely because of imperialist interests and efforts. At the same time the United Nations is demanding that the war be ended, the United States, France and England speculate with the arms trade: The multinational companies traffic on the black market in arms for both parties."

#### Opposition Expanding

Several different opposition groups operate in Iraq. Buthaynah Sharif told us that the best-organized group is the Patriotic Democratic Front, within which the Iraqi Communist Party and the Democratic and Social Kurdish Party operate. In addition there are among others the Ba'ath Party opposition and other Arab and Kurd groups.

"The opposition is constantly expanding and getting stronger, but it's still too scattered for it to be able to effectively exert pressure on the government and oust it. We ought to be capable of better rallying our forces."

Buthaynah Sharif is very willing to speak about women. Women's status is close to her heart; although she herself has received an education, she too has suffered the consequences of discrimination against women. She has undertaken the specific mission of organizing women into an opposition, arousing their awareness and channeling their suffering and agony into action.

"The situation provides good opportunities for getting more and more women to join us. For example, large groups of women gather in front of hospitals to

receive their relatives who have died or were wounded or have been prisoners of war. Likewise, there are regular migrations of women to the sacred sites to which the war dead are brought for cremation.

"Women play a very important role in opposition activities. Among other things, women have organized large demonstrations in many communities where youths are recruited for the war. During one demonstration security troops opened fire and shot and killed 13 women.

"Women have also participated in armed fighting in the ranks of the Patriotic Democratic Front in the liberated areas of Kurdistan," Buthaynah Sharif said. She never wants to play up her own position, does not talk about herself, only about the women as "they."

"Women also take care of deserters from the war hiding in rural areas and guard them. Farm workers — also women — have armed themselves and if necessary protect those who have fled the war from the war.

"In this fight women's awareness of their own situation is also heightened. In Iraq women are still second-class citizens, without equality and equal rights to determine their own lives. But women's as well as other oppressed people's status can only be improved by changing the whole system to a democratic one," Buthaynah Sharif said.

11,466

CSO: 3617/163



## POPULATION STATISTICS INDICATE FALLING DEATH RATE

Baghdad THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 30 Apr 84 p 4

[Article by Hussain Cobba]

[Text]

**Improving living standards and personal hygiene, social and sanitary reforms, clean water and better housing have combined to effect a substantial fall in the death rate in Iraq in recent years. These factors have been aided by medical progress, the provision of free public health services and the control of infectious and epidemic diseases.**

Available statistics indicate that this phenomenon has been taking place in most developing countries. Falling mortality rates apply in all developing countries. The difference lies in the underlying causes. In Iraq it has been caused by improving living standards as much as by medical progress. In the majority of poor developing countries however, where living standards have hardly inched forward, medical progress, has been responsible for the fall in death rates.

In Iraq according to medical statistics the average

life expectancy of the individual has risen to well over 65 years as compared with 55 during the 1960s. Infant mortality has dropped significantly from 122 per every 1000 births to well below 85 in the mid-1970s and much lower than that in later years.

The similarity between the experience of Iraq and of the other developing countries ends here. High reproductive rates resulting from drastic fall in the mortality rates against high birth rates have caused a troublesome and unwanted population explosion in the poor developing countries. On the other hand Iraq has been all but in favour of faster growth in the number of Iraqis.

The surge in population in the poor developing countries is a nightmare that has to be faced by their governments and planners. These countries are facing a kind of

# BOARDS IN PLANNING MINISTRY ENUMERATED

Baghdad THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER inEEnglish 25 Apr 84 p 4

[Article by Hussain Cobba]

[Text] The task of developing economic plans in Iraq came to light in 1950 when the Development Council was set up. Three years later the Development Ministry was formed. The establishment of these organisations timed with the fast and significant increase in oil revenues.

Planning and its organisations in other words emerged as a result of a rise in oil income and not because of an increase in the production base, be it in agriculture or industry. Nor was it an outcome of faith and conviction in the need for state economic planning.

This perhaps explains why planning in the 1950s and later during the 1960s was confined to the distribution of oil revenue on public investment projects.

In the aftermath of the July 1958 Revolution both the Development Council and Development Ministry were abolished. They were replaced in 1959 by the Council for Economic Planning and the Ministry of Planning.

The change in names was meant to indicate more State involvement in the running of the economy. In practice, however, the role of the new Ministry was still effectively confined to drawing up the public investment programme. The only significant change was that planning functions were separated from execution functions. The implementation of projects endorsed by the Ministry was henceforth delegated to the individual ministries. The Development Council and the Ministry on the other hand were responsible for execution as well as project selection.

During the 1960s the name of the Economic Planning Council was changed into the Planning Council indicating wider responsibility whereby the planning process was to encompass all aspects of development including social action. But despite these national changes the planning process generally remained in a rudimentary state.

New planning principles appeared after the July 17 Revolution in 1968. Planning concepts became central in the building of all sectors of the economy, a view strongly held by the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party which assumed government after 1968. Planning became the instrument to achieve coordinated development,



fast economic growth, just distribution of income and cohesive social change. The principles of comprehensive development were evoked to secure harmony of action taken by the various sectors of government which started to take increasing role in the management and running of the economy.

The task of coordination became the duty of the expanded Ministry of Planning. The Ministry assumed several interrelated functions including:

--Preparation of a comprehensive plan for economic and social development which is submitted to higher authorities for their review and approval. The plan normally includes macro-variables such as incomes, employment, consumption, investment, savings, production and trade.

--Conducting technical studies including past and future performance with the objective of feeding information into the plan.

These duties are conducted by the various organisations in the Ministry. The organisational structure and the procedural functions of the various organisations of the Ministry have been developed to suit its tasks. There are six Planning Boards in addition to the Agricultural Office, the Legal Office, and several agencies and institutes.

#### Board for Economic Planning

The most important of boards perhaps, is the Board for Economic Planning. Its main task is the preparation of the annual and five year plans. It also oversees the public investment programme, its size and composition. The ordinary budget though prepared by the Finance Ministry is assessed by the board and its relationship with the rest of economic variables is monitored.

There are two separate departments in this board, one for the preparation and coordination of plans and another for investment and trade planning. Each department consists of several sections with well defined jobs.

#### Board for Industrial Planning

This board formulates industrial development programmes for manufacturing, extracting and power generation industries.

It has two general departments comprising sections for each main branch of industry such as petrochemicals, construction materials, textiles and engineering. Each section carries out a multitude of tasks including investment appraisal, follow up of project construction, performance assessing collecting information and analysing problems and devising solutions.

#### Board of Manpower Planning

The activities of manpower planning are conducted by two general departments each divided into section. Planning here involves population labour supply, labour demand, education and technical training. Central allocation of university graduates and the distribution of some skills of labour are carried out by the board.

### Board for Transport Planning

Short and long term transport planning including road transport, railways and river transportation and aviation, is the undertaking of this board. Its objective is to develop the transport system on the most economic, efficient and effective way.

### Board for Construction, Housing and Service Planning

The responsibilities of this board, which consists of two general departments, is planning, coordination and follow up of the construction of civic buildings, hospital buildings, medical and health centres, schools and universities and housing schemes.

The board is also responsible for public utilities such as water and sewerage systems.

### Board for Urban and Regional Planning

This board is responsible for the spatial aspects of the development plan which, through regional planning, attempts a balanced and equitable distribution of income between the regions and the provinces. The board also carries out town planning jobs.

### Central Board for Follow Up

This is one of the large boards in the Ministry. Its basic functions are two folds. First the follow up of the construction of development projects, and second monitoring productivity levels at productive enterprises, in industry, agriculture, transport and public utilities.

### Agricultural Office

This office takes part together with the Ministry of Agriculture in the preparation of five year and annual plans for the agricultural sector. It carries out research and studies for this purpose and also reviews projects submitted by the agricultural sector to be included in the medium and short term plans.

### Other Organisations

Beside the planning boards and ministry has several agencies which offer back-up support for the planning process. These include: The National Centre for Consultations and Administrative Development, Central Agency for inspection and Quality Control, Central Agency for Statistics, and the National Institute for Planning.

CSO: 4400/261

## SENIOR OFFICIALS REQUIRED TO SERVE IN LOWER POSTS

Baghdad THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 20 Apr 84 p 4

[Text] **Ministers, heads of state establishments, and director-generals are required to serve at lower posts to experience work difficulties and bottlenecks.**

Eight years ago the government started a wide campaign to reform its judiciary system. After many public debates and seminars, several new legislations were issued. The reason behind that campaign was to make laws match up with the new agricultural, economic, cultural and social transformations in the country after the Ba'th Party had taken office on July 1968.

The government seemed to have gone some good way to make democracy a standard practice. In addition to the Peoples' Councils which have been playing an active role in running local affairs, the government held public elections in 1980 to elect the country's first National Assembly.

During its four-year term, which expires in June, the National Assembly, passed

many bills which have direct impact on the citizens' living conditions, and the general atmosphere in the whole society.

The new process which was sparked by a Presidential decree, aims at eliminating bureaucracy, since senior officials would not entirely rely on reports submitted to them.

Problems of the administrative system, before 1968, structured along the lines of the feudal regimes, were a regular target for local press, usually inspired by the new principles and values of the Ba'th Party.

Special pages in dailies and weeklies were devoted to citizens' complaints and problems. Unions and other organizations were required to exercise a sort of popular supervision to secure the right handling of daily affairs by the various administrative units.

These new democratic trends were given further momentum when the daily "al-Thawra", the Organ of the Ba'th Party, organised a

series of face-to-face meetings with the Mayors of Iraq's eighteen provinces.

Therefore, it is not expected, said a senior Party official, to see government

employees waver from these successive campaigns aimed at radical changes in the administrative system.

"The new democratic practice enables senior State officials to get in touch with the details of work run by the various bodies of the ministries, State establishments or departments—!", said Iraq's Culture and Information Minister, Latif Nsaiyif Jassim.

Mr. Jassim, who recently, served as the Director General of Al-Hurriya Printing House said the new process "is a self examination and of humanitarian dimension as it will maintain the revolutionary fervour of senior state officials to build a new society".

"You would see for yourself the actual rates of production and work difficulties, the problems of workers and junior officials who

might not be given a chance to air their complaints to the highest authorities", he explained.

Mr Jassim said that due to his repeated visits to the House; his personal follow up of its activities, and his positive cooperation with the officials there to find urgent solutions for all problems, helped increase its production rates.

Thus in 1983 the House surpassed its output target by 107 per cent. This year it is expected to surpass its target by 110 per cent.

When Mr Jassim was working as a Director General of Al-Hurriya House for Printing, the actual Director General, Abdul Hussein Farhan, was working as a director of one of the house' sections.

While serving as the Head of the State Establishment for Post, Telegram and Telephone, the Minister of Transport and Communications, Abdul Jabbar Abdul Raheem, said such a process would help speed up the implementation of work. Negative aspects were noted and plans for overcoming them were made.

He said that during his new work, some eighty thousand telephone lines were modernized in addition to installation of 200,000 lines.

The Minister also held public meetings with citizens

at his new office to discuss their problems. Thus, he said, "I have formed a full picture of what is going on at this Establishment." "It is a true picture which is out of experience and not out of reports," he explained.

Among other Ministers who are currently serving at lower posts is the Minister of Irrigation, Abdul Wahab Mahmoud. He is working as the Head of the State Establishment for Maintaining and Operating Irrigation projects. Earlier he served as the Head of the State Establishment for Land Reclamation.

He said that President Saddam Hussain was the first to put into effect such democratic principles. He explained that Iraq is the first country all over the world to promote such practices.

The new Head of the State Establishment for Maintaining and Operating Irrigation Projects said that his Ministry has prepared a programme whereby all the Director Generals are to serve at lower posts.

He said that after the expiry of this period, they are required to prepare a full and detailed study incorporating their remarks and impressions of their work at these offices.

A new unified working formula would be, therefore, laid and to be followed by the Ministry's bodies and departments.

# STATE WATER COMPANY IMPLEMENTS REGIONAL PROJECTS

Baghdad THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 20 Apr 84 p 4

[Text] **The State Company for the Contracts of Water and Sewerage Projects is going ahead with its plan to implement several projects in various provinces. Among these is a huge water project at Karkh side of Baghdad. The first phase of the project would be opened in July 1985.**

By 1986, the two million gallon per day project would be completed.

The project consists of four water projects. One is in Shu'la area and is composed of a concrete water tank, a pumping station and power generating and water purifying stations.

The second is at the southern area of Baghdad, Seidia Area. Water is pumped to this plant from the northern reservoir, and pumps it, in turn, to the surrounding water networks.

It also has a concrete tank and two power generating and water purifying stations.

The reservoir at Abu Ghuraib area receives water from the northern reservoir too, and pumps it to the nearby water networks. The reservoir at Al-Taji area receives and pumps water to the surrounding water networks.

Among other projects currently being implemented by the company is Saddam's Town sewerage system, on which work started in 1980. This system comprises sewage sub-networks with 25 mm diameter and 750 kms long.

As for water projects in the provinces, these include Diwaniya water project with a total capacity of 20 million gallons a day. It consists of a major purification plant, and four filtration tanks.

Karbala province water project has a total capacity of 40 million gallons per day.

At Mahmoudiya district work is going on to complete a water project with a total capacity of 20 million gallons a day. The project is composed of a pumping station, three filtration plants and ten ground water reservoirs each with a capacity of 300 cubic metres of water.

The company is also constructing a water project with a total capacity of 15 million gallons a day. At Hamdaniya district a huge water project is currently under construction. It consists of a major pumping station and a pumping out station, near the banks of the river Tigris along with 13 filtration plants and 14 storages.

The company is doing an expansion work on Rustamiya water project which is expected to be completed by the end of next year to provide 1.5 million citizens with drinking water.

Tikrit sewage system will serve some 70,000 citizens. It consists of nine pumping stations and 220 km long main and sub-networks.

As for Mahmoudiya sewage system this will pump out some 10,000 cu.m. heavy water per day. Its services will cover 100,000 citizens.

In addition to the projects mentioned above the company is constructing other water and sewage projects. These include water projects of Mussayyab, Fallouja, Simawa and Western Desert, Sulaimaniya, the tourist town at Sharqat district, and Diyala.

Sewage projects include those of Saddam's Town, Karkh side of Baghdad, Nassiriya, Gaiyara and some other small projects in various areas in the country.

CSO: 4400/261

PRIMARY SCHOOLS ENROLL 400,000 CHILDREN

Baghdad THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 21 Apr 84 p 4

[Text] **Some 459,483 children, covered by the Compulsory Education Law, are to join the primary schools during 1984-1985 school year.**

Central committees are to be formed soon in the provinces, headed by the Mayors, to prepare for admission in schools of all the children born in 1978.

The figures given by the Ministry of Education include 123,313 children in Baghdad, 24,449 in Nineveh, 13,839 in Saladdin, 17,103 in Ta'meem, 20,950 in Diyala, 18,128 in Anbar, 22,660 in Babylon, 9,762 in Kerbala, 14,820 in Najaf, 17,345 in Qadissiya Province.

The ministry sources said that the number of children covered by the compulsory education in Muthanna province is 8,597; in Dhiqar 24,283; in Wasit 15,283.

While 13,100 children will join primary schools in Meisan Province; 36,152 in Basra Province, 10,399 in Dohouk Province; 22,280 in

Arbil Province and 29,020 in Suleimaniya Province.

Director generals of education departments, heads of administrative units

and directors of planning sectors are members in the central committees of each province.

Subcommittees are also to be formed in the districts and subdistricts to take a survey of children covered by the law and submit reports to this effect to the central committees.

The subcommittees would also prepare lists of the names of children and their schools. These lists will be fixed at these schools and the education departments.

Children's parents are to be informed of these lists and they will be made to contact the schools to register their children. This should be made during summer holidays.

These subcommittees would also check that all the target children will have joined their schools at the beginning of September.

Unified reports on children that do not attend school and the reasons, would be submitted by the central committees to the ministries of education and higher education.

CSO: 4400/261

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT ISSUES

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 20, 28 Apr-4 May 84 pp 14-15

/Interview with Sulayman 'Arrar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and minister of the interior, by Huda al-Murr in 'Amman: "Return of Nonrepudiated and Democratic Parties Only Through Parliament"; date of interview not specified

/Text In a special interview in 'Amman with Jordanian deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Mr Sulayman 'Arrar, Mr 'Arrar talked about the explosion in the Jordanian capital before the visit of the British queen to Jordan and about assassination attempts on some Jordanian diplomats abroad. The Jordanian interior minister also talked about the past and the future of Jordanian-Palestinian relations and about the democratic experience in Jordan, as well as the disposition toward the return of political parties, not to mention the religious current that emerged in the recent elections.

The following is the interview with Jordanian Minister of the Interior Sulayman 'Arrar:

/Question Before the visit of the British queen to Jordan, an explosion was set off. To what extent did it affect the security situation in Jordan, especially since the economy is closely tied to security?

/Answer I can frankly say that this resounding explosion did not have any influence on us whatsoever and did not upset the economic situation at all. Of course its timing, just before the visit of the British queen to Jordan, and its place, at the foreign press gathering, are what gave it some importance.

/Question It is said that you have arrested the perpetrators.

/Answer We have indeed arrested the perpetrators. Jordanian security agencies are in full control of the security situation and have attained good results. They have apprehended the perpetrators, as I have said, but I am not at liberty to mention the details for security reasons and in the interest of the investigation.

/Question Is there any connection between what happened in recent months, that is, assassination attempts on some of your ambassadors, and the recent explosion?



/Answer/ I can say that the parties behind this explosion and those attempts are one. Consequently, they are hired by certain parties. I will not say any more about it at this point.

/Question/ It is being said that you are going to show the perpetrators on TV.

/Answer/ These are security measures which I should not discuss before full investigations with those who undertook these operations are concluded.

#### Government Programs

/Question/ As deputy prime minister, what are the new programs on the basis of which the government got the vote of confidence?

/Answer/ The program the government submitted to parliament revolves around domestic relations, industrial and agricultural stimulation, battling corruption and securing medical and educational services for the people. This is in the domestic field. As for the foreign field, Arab cooperation was at the top of the list, that is, a priority, because we believe that if we are one coordinated Arab rank, we can achieve much for the Arab nation. We in Jordan do not refuse any Arab hand that is extended to us. Regarding the international situation, King Husayn has cast light on it through local and international mass media. They all revolve around our position on the Palestinian issue.

/Question/ Speaking of the Palestinian issue, where do talks between you and the Organization /i.e., the PLO/ stand?

/Answer/ Our relationship with the organization is firmly established now and is no longer considered one of bidding and outbidding. This is not what we want and they should not be like that either. We basically have a position, and we cannot but have a position on the Palestinian issue because we are the biggest losers in this. Even if it tried, Jordan cannot distance itself from the Palestinian issue or the Palestinian problem because it is being burned by it, be it banishment from the occupied territory or people's nationality and future, and the demographic makeup and the existence of a West Bank and an East Bank as well. In all of this, we are at the heart of the Palestinian issue. Hence, any rapprochement between us and the organization is a natural one and a return to the way it used to be. This is from the fundamental point of view. As for the mechanics of it, we have held with our brothers in the organization some long talks about how to arrange future relations in the wak of the Fez summit.

/Question/ But relations have been suspended and several communiques on the matter have been issued.

/Answer/ Yes. After the negotiations failed, a Jordanian communique explaining all points was issued. The organization also experienced many internal problems with some sister countries. We cannot forget the war against the opposition in Tripoli (Lebanon) and other places. They (the organization) were the ones who broke off talks even though contacts between us were not cut off; they were maintained through their offices in our country or by visits of some of their

officials. It was the negotiations and discussions that were suspended. Recently, Abu 'Ammar came with some executive committee members and we had a meeting with them during which we studied together the status of the issue and ways of cooperation. We found that our points of view were very close, so we issued a joint communique in this regard.

/Question/ What are the objectives of the communique?

/Answer/ We are committed to the necessity of an initiative on the Arab level in support of the West Bank. It is necessary to move on the international level to explain and revive the Palestinian issue. It is also necessary to coordinate at all the various stages of this issue and we are determined to do that, as demonstrated by the meeting between one of my fellow ministers and Kahlil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad) in Algiers in order to study together the situation of the steadfastness fund. That meeting took place in an atmosphere of love and friendship. In short, relations between us and the organization are good and proceeding on firm ground.

/Question/ Do you consider the PLO, in its present situation, capable of taking a final and decisive decision on all issues it shares with Jordan?

/Answer/ It is true that there are some internal differences in the organization, but this is of no concern to us personally. But I think that "Fatah" is the backbone of the PLO and is still strong and capable of making decisions. I do not think that the dissidents have had any effect on it. They may have influenced its relations with certain organizations, but they were not able to affect "Fatah's" basic structure. It is still strong and cohesive. Therefore, my conception is that the PLO will be stronger in the future, despite the shock it experienced and the split during its presence in Lebanon, as well as its relations with Syria which reflected on one or two organizations. But most certainly, all the organizations put together do not amount to one "Fatah" which is still strong and sound.

/Question/ But if natural relations between Abu 'Ammar and Syria are resumed, will this influence the course of the ongoing dialogue between you and the organization?

/Answer/ I have no idea about the resumption of relations between Abu 'Ammar and Syria. We, however, naturally do not detest any rapprochement or good relations that serve the Palestinian issue. Jordan has never been and will never be sensitive over close inter-Arab relations. Our relations with Fatah and the PLO were good when Abu 'Ammar was in Syria and they began many years ago.

/Question/ But the relationship between you and Abu 'Ammar then was not developed or what it is today.

/Answer/ Things are subject to the times. However, Fatah has most certainly entered the battle of the Palestinian independent decisionmaking process and has come out the winner.

/Question/ It was said recently that King Husayn will visit some European as well as eastern countries in the company of Abu 'Ammar.

/Answer/ I have not heard anything about this at all and I do not think it will happen.

#### Democracy and Parties

/Question/ Let's go back to Jordan and its domestic affairs. The revival of parliament after years of suspension means the return of democracy. Is there a chance for the parties to resume their activities?

/Answer/ The Jordanian parties' law is suspended and party activity is banned. The Jordanian parliamentary experience is not new to us. It was stopped for urgent circumstances, including the occupation and the difficulty of elections on the West Bank. After the constitution was amended and all measures completed, parliament came back, thank God, to resume its role again. We hope that this return will yield its fruits very soon.

/Question/ don't you think that these parties complement democracy?

/Answer/ According to the western school, yes. Parties stick closely to democracy and are the basic part of the democratic experience. If we are to expound on this, I say each country has its own experience. Some believe in the one-party system and others go for the multiparty system. Furthermore, some countries employ the no-party system. Here in Jordan, the parties had a big share in our previous experience but in the wake of the rise of the Zionist state in Palestine, our country went through difficult circumstances that led the country to suspend the parties law because that experience was neither good nor happy. On the contrary, the Arab world witnessed many military coups and several plots against most Arab regimes, and they were all against one another. Jordan is one of the very few in the Arab world that did not undertake any such activity. At that time, some parties had their eyes on the outside more so than the inside. So in order to stop those who had designs on the country, the parties' law was suspended and this suspension is still in effect. Now, Jordan maintains an open mind toward all the experiences of the world and the Jordanian people are over the initial stages since every citizen feels that we have our own experiences. The people have become strong and no one can deceive or mislead them. I imagine that the Jordanian people are rallying around their leaders and do not feel the fear of the past. In short, the matter of the return of parties is a political decision and a government decision on which I cannot expound at this time.

/Question/ In other words, the return of the parties has not been brought up for discussion now?

/Answer/ It has not been brought up at all. Expression of democracy is done by other means such as parliamentary or municipal elections. The elections were held with the utmost honesty. Moreover, King Husayn's door is open to all. In conclusion, we are practicing true democracy for which we are envied, although some other countries practice it in slogans and posters only.

## The Religious Current

/Question/ The recent parliament has had many religious currents. Will this affect its direction?

/Answer/ Our people are mostly Muslims, something we must not forget. As for the existence of religious currents all over the world, it is due to the failure of domestic and foreign policies in those countries, thus creating strong religious feelings and organizations. A case in point is Iran. Regarding the success of some of those individuals in the Jordanian parliament, I do not think it represents a change of direction in Jordanian policy. They are people who are committed to the constitution and to the country's establishments and they have taken an oath in this regard. They went in through the door and we welcome any dialogue via the existing constitutional parliamentary channels. The existence of several currents is a sign of good health, provided that they are not committed to the outside.

/Question/ It has been said that Jordan will be an oil country and King Husayn has visited the site. Do you think that the recovered quantities will meet Jordan's oil needs?

/Answer/ The existence of oil in Jordan has been announced, but in quantities that do not meet one-tenth of our oil needs. Moreover, recovery costs will be much more than the returns.

/Question/ Will the agenda of the upcoming foreign ministers' conference include Egypt's return to the Arab fold following its return to the Islamic organization?

/Answer/ Its decision is up to the Arab summit conferences. As you know, the decision to expel and isolate Egypt was an Arab summit resolution in Baghdad. Its return must be discussed in an Arab summit conference.

/Question/ The question is: Will Jordan support Egypt's return to the /Arab/ League if this matter is raised?

/Answer/ I am not qualified to answer this question. However, we naturally demanded its return to the Islamic fold and we will naturally demand its return to the Arab fold.

/Question/ Does the cabinet reshuffle in Jordan have anything to do with the situation between Damascus and Jordan returning to normal?

/Answer/ No, not necessarily. Relations with Syria deteriorated for reasons that still exist. When these reasons disappear, so will the estrangement. Accordingly, our position is clear and open: no attacks and no campaigns. We also do not interfere in the affairs of any Arab country and we would like reciprocal treatment.

## BRIEFS

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT--AL-TADAMUN has learned from informed diplomatic sources in Athens that Jordan has signed an agreement with Greece to have the Greek aircraft manufacturing company (a government concern) maintain and repair Jordanian military aircraft such as the Hercules C-130 and the jet engines of the F-1 Mirage aircraft. These sources confirmed that the French Government, at Jordan's request, has agreed to give the Greek Government official permission to maintain the jet engines of the F-1 Mirage, while U.S. Government reaction to this Jordanian step, taking by King Husayn following President Reagan's withdrawal of the bill to supply Jordan with U.S. arms in exchange for the withdrawal of the congressional bill to move the American embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem, is not yet known. /Text/ /London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic No 54, 21 Apr 84 p 6/ 12502

CSO: 4404/464

## OFFICIAL DISCUSSES EDUCATION SERVICES, VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 18 May 84 p 23

/Interview with 'Ali Muhammad al-Jarwani, undersecretary of ministry of education, by 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad al-Shuraymi; "Programmed Policy for Educational Renaissance within Framework of Sultanate's Comprehensive Cultural Renaissance"

/Text In this interview, 'Ali Muhammad al-Jarwani, the undersecretary for educational and teaching affairs at the Sultanate of Oman's Ministry of Education, discusses the educational renaissance that has attained an advanced level in the sultanate within the framework of a comprehensive cultural renaissance embodied in 300 currently-existing elementary schools which have 4,099 classes and which accommodate 134,650 male and female students, 170 preparatory /junior high schools including 991 classes and accommodating 23,337 male and female students and 29 general secondary /high schools including 240 classes and accommodating 6,329 students, in addition to an Islamic institute, 4 teachers' institutes and other educational establishments. He also discusses the international phenomenon of avoiding the teaching profession and the Arab strategy for educational integration. Following is the text of the interview with the undersecretary.

## Sultanate's Educational Renaissance

/Question Can your excellency tell us about the educational renaissance in your dear country, especially in the stages of general and special education?

/Answer The ministry has defined its policy for enhancing the educational standard within the framework of the sultanate's comprehensive renaissance whose features are reflected clearly in the increasing numbers of graduates and schools in all parts of the country. This renaissance has put the emphasis on building the enlightened Omani citizen as the state's dearest human investment. It has planned for spreading education and taking this education to the provinces and villages in accordance with a gradual, well-studied and, at the same time, ambitious policy to build diversified schools and to spread them according to available resources and to secure schools with the right quality so as to insure training the citizen in a complete manner with the purpose of serving the objectives of the society's comprehensive development.



A simple figure demonstrates the efforts made by the ministry to enable the sphere of education to keep pace with the comprehensive renaissance. Whereas the number of schools in the sultanate in 1969-70 was just 3 elementary schools in the capital and in the southern province accommodating 909 students, with no schools in the other provinces, you now find that this number has grown and that the schools have been diversified to include general education, technical education, religious institutes attached to the mosques, an Islamic institute and male and female teachers' institutes. The services of these schools cover all nine provinces of the sultanate. We now have:

A total of 300 elementary schools including 4,099 classes and accommodating 134,650 male and female students.

A total of 170 preparatory schools including 991 classes and accommodating 23,337 male and female students.

A total of 39 secondary schools including 240 classes and accommodating 6,329 male and female students.

This is in addition to:

One Islamic institute including 9 classes and accommodating 235 students.

Four male and female teachers' institutes including 35 classes and accommodating 799 male and female students.

Two secondary business schools that include 12 classes and accommodating 277 male and female students.

One secondary agricultural institute that includes 6 classes and accommodates 97 students.

One secondary industrial institute that includes 2 classes and accommodates 55 students.

Two model preparatory schools including 15 classes and accommodating 459 students.

Seven preparatory religious institutes attached to the mosques and concerned with general education, with the emphasis put on Islamic sciences. These institutes include 38 classes accommodating 524 students.

One school for special education including 10 classes and accommodating 82 male and female students.

This means that as a result of the expansion and growth, the number of schools and institutes opened amounts to 518 schools and institutes for the various stages of education including 5,447 classes and accommodating 166,844 male and female students.

## Within Programmed Policy

This educational renaissance has been achieved through a policy planned and programmed within the framework of the first 5-year plan of 1976-80 and the second 5-year plan for 1981-85 which is under implementation and which provides for building schools, supplying them with the needed equipment and requirements and for improving their educational standards.

The plan also calls for providing the good specialized teacher, either from among the local cadres or from the paternal and friendly countries. It further calls for enhancing the level of the local cadres rendering educational service, either through renewed internal refresher courses or through scholarships to the outside world to insure the proper building of the future generations.

## International Phenomenon

/Question/ Avoiding the profession of teaching has almost become a general phenomenon in the world. To what degree is your honorable country affected by this phenomenon and what are the solutions you are embracing to attract teachers to this profession and to insure their continuation in it?

/Answer/ The phenomenon of avoiding the profession of teaching is as much an international phenomenon as it is an Arab one. The intensity of this phenomenon and the ways to deal with it vary from country to country. In the Sultanate of Oman, we do not find that this phenomenon is as alarming as in other countries and that its impact is smaller. The Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs took part in the third conference of the Arab undersecretaries of education which was held in San'a', studied this phenomenon and formulated the proper plans to curtail it.

As for the solutions embraced by the sultanate to attract the teacher to this profession and to insure his continuation in it, they are the following:

1. Improving the teachers' material, professional and academic conditions. The Sultanate of Oman's Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs is working to secure a job for every graduate immediately upon his graduation. The graduate is appointed to a job in the geographic province from which he comes. The ministry also sends excelling graduates who wish to continue their higher education to study at universities abroad and pays them the teachers' allowances set according to their qualifications to encourage them to continue working in this profession upon graduation. They are also given the opportunity to rise to supervisory and leadership positions upon gaining the needed experience.

## Incentives Offered to Teachers

The ministry has begun to offer incentives that attract people with teaching qualifications, of which we will note the following:

1. Encouraging male and female students to enroll in the teaching profession at the male and female teachers' institutes by offering moral, social and material incentives and a number of other effective incentives.



2. A teaching allowance is paid to whomever works in the teaching profession.
3. Upon completing the preparation and training programs, the teacher gets a promotion or two allowances, depending on his qualification.
4. Those graduating from the institutes with high grades are given the opportunity to continue their studies at universities and higher institutes.

To improve the teachers' academic, professional and material conditions in the near future, ministerial decree No 67/83 has been issued to establish junior-level university colleges to train teachers in the Sultanate of Oman for a period of 2 years after high school as of 1984-85.

To improve professional and academic performance and to achieve constant professional growth, the department concerned with teacher training and guidance is currently holding retraining courses in all provinces of the sultanate. We also pay field visits to follow up on the graduates and to improve their professional performance.

#### Changing Society's View of Profession

Some success has been achieved in changing the teachers' and society's view of this profession. The sultanate is exerting efforts to put this profession in a distinguished position and to make it one of the higher professions and to enable the teachers' cadre to be equal to, if not better than, the cadres of the best professions. It is well known that the third conference of the Arab ministers of education recommended that the Arab teachers' material and moral standard be raised in a manner that offers him the opportunity of an honorable life, motivates him to build and produce and attracts him to the teaching profession. Another recommendation was issued on the teachers' conditions by the Arab governments conference which was held in Paris in 1966 as published-- a recommendation which states: "The authorities in charge must realize that improving the teachers' social, economic, living, working and employment conditions and improving the possibilities of advancement in their profession are the best means to overcome any existing shortage in the number of qualified and experienced teachers and to attract large numbers of fully qualified persons to the teaching profession and keep them in it."

It is worth noting that the Sultanate of Oman's Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs has taken this recommendation into consideration and has begun to offer incentives that attract qualified persons. All this will lead to respect for the profession, to a change in society's view of it and to the teachers' adherence to the profession, without thinking of deserting it or refraining from enrolling in it.

#### Opinion on Gulf Teacher

Question How does your excellency view the Gulf teacher's educational and social level and the level of his performance?

/Answer/ The Gulf teacher keeps in touch with all the new educational developments embodied in the information explosion whose effects have reached the Gulf area, be they information or technological developments dictated by the necessity of change.

We believe that the educational level of the Gulf teacher has been enhanced greatly over what it used to be in the near past. This teacher has been able to absorb the sources of modern education that have emerged in large numbers embodied in the periodicals, magazines, studies and references issued, by the circles concerned and made available to the teacher by the officials. Moreover, it is worth noting that this teacher's ambition has not stopped at what he has been supplied with but has gone beyond to exerting personal efforts in order to keep pace with all the educational developments.

As for the teacher's social position, it is obvious that the teacher has a high place among all of society's segments. This is the result of the deep-rooted respect in Arab society for those who provide us with knowledge and learning.

As a result of this view, the officials concerned with education have devoted their attention to improving the teacher's material, academic and professional conditions and the teacher is now in a position that enables him to perform his message with utter sincerity, responsibility and efficiency.

As for the level of performance, it is good and it is hoped that the Gulf teacher's standard will be raised in the future through the implementation of well-studied scientific programs and plans which will undoubtedly contribute to improving a performance reflecting fruitful efforts in the field of education.

#### Academic and Technical Methods

/Question/ What are the methods which your excellency views as suitable for enhancing the capability of the Gulf teacher to enable him to teach in the various educational stages?

/Answer/ First, they can be defined in academic methods and technical methods. It is necessary to examine these methods under the light and within the framework of the everchanging view of the educational profession and of the national philosophies and in a manner compatible with the requirements of progress and of the age in which we live. We should take into consideration that Arab Gulf society needs a teacher who relies on a broad base of everrenewed knowledge and needs to raise the capability of this teacher within a framework of sound professional principles, especially since this is an age in which knowledge is constantly regenerated and is accumulated at such high rates that the Arab Gulf teacher is required to be able to absorb the largest degree of information in his field of specialization, in addition to knowing the means to transmit this knowledge by the largest degree, in the shortest time and with the highest efficiency at the same time.

Second, the modern technology that has invaded the sphere of education in the advanced countries has become necessary as a means that must be employed to help enhance the level of the Gulf teacher and to enable him to teach in the various stages of education.

Third, the rapid change occurring in Arab Gulf society at ever accelerating rates requires a teacher who believes in change as a reality and as a must at the same time. Consequently, the teacher must have his positive role in guiding this change from his position. This can be done by providing the teacher with the ability to renew, move forward and use what is new in the field of education.

Fourth, the teachers' institutes must keep pace with the quantitative and qualitative dimensions of this rapid information development by adopting the latest methods of teaching and by providing the teachers with the elements that insure developing their ability for continued study and by also adopting the theory of self-education to prepare the teacher to teach in the various stages of education.

Fifth, changing the circumstances under which teachers are trained and viewing the training programs with a new look that helps adoption of the theory of constant training before and during service.

Sixth, the universities must provide the teachers with the opportunity to continue their professional development through training programs and through utilization of whatever is new in the sphere of developing the means that help raise efficiency.

Seventh, it is necessary to view the Gulf teacher and his training sources with a complete and comprehensive look and to avoid the look that differentiates between one teacher and another, between one form of education and another and between one stage of education and another.

Avoiding such a view helps greatly in creating the desire to learn more, to enhance one's capability and to teach with a good spirit in the various stages of education.

#### Strategy of Educational Integration

/Question/ To what degree has your country utilized the educational strategy projected by the Arab Education, Culture and Science Organization and approved by the Arab countries 2 years ago to achieve educational integration between the fraternal Arab countries?

/Answer/ The strategy of developing Arab education is a pan-Arab effort that has continued to be a dear dream occurring to the Arab nation's leaders and intellectuals for a long time. It is the starting scientific point to the broad horizons of modern life and the means for regaining a lofty humane role--lofty by all historical and objective criteria--in the international human community.

To crystallize these pan-Arab feelings, a resolution was issued by the fourth conference of the Arab ministers of education (on 1 December 1972 in Sanaa) to develop the Arab countries' education strategy. An Arab committee was formed for the purpose. To perform its function, the committee began by defining concepts, establishing criteria, planning curricula, devising instruments and selecting the best means and the most suitable methods. The committee then proceeded to hold meetings to discuss the issues and the projections, to study

the given facts and the changes, to examine the hypohese and the possibilities and to organize dialogue meetings at a later phase of action. It moved from capital to capital, seeking the help of studies and research and reinforcing its work with field action, proceeding on the basis of the pan-Arab concept that education is bigger than the profession of teaching and the profession of teaching is bigger than the scholastic and university system. Education is development in all its human and economic dimensions. It is the gate and the key to technological and scientific civilization and man is the entire axis of this education and both its means and its end.

The value of strategy, like the vale of any concept, does not lie just in its soundness or correctness but also in being convinced of it, in being willing to practice it and in having the ability of translate and implement it.

Arab education strategy became a reality in Arab education since it was approved by the general conference of the Arab Education, Culture and Science Organization Khartoum in 1978. This conference was followed by meetings of the Arab undersecretaries of education. Oman has participated in these meetings and has performed its role at the national level and the local level. Oman has been present in all the conferences and meetings that have discussed this strategy and the policies to organize and implement it. It is worth noting that out of its extreme interest in and concern for Arab education strategy, the sultanate submitted a plan concerning the Arab teacher and hosted a symposium in Muscat (24-28 February 1979) which discussed the new role of the Arab teacher and the modern directions that must be adopted in training him. This symposium was held through cooperation between Oman's Ministry of Education, the Arab Education, Culture and Science Organization and the Federation of Arab Teachers (to discuss Arab education strategy and to become familiar with the training of teachers in the Arab countries and with the efforts exerted to enhance the level of this training).

At the local level, Oman has spared no efforts. A committee has been formed of a number of top education officials who have undertaken to study the recommendations made by the meetings of the Arab undersecretaries of education and to find out the possibility of utilizing each recommendation separately to achieve educational integration at the local and Arab levels. Generally, the sultanate has used the Arab education strategy as a guide to provide the opportunities for enriching action with the spirit of initiative and innovation so that this strategy may be absorbed in a sound manner through Omani research and studies which then turn into tangible reality on the path of education in Oman which is now flourishing under the administration of His Exalted Majesty Qabus ibn Sa'id, the redeemed leader, may God keep him.

#### Sultanate's Student Guidance Plan

/Question/ What is the youth guidance plan of your country's Ministry of Education to benefit from the youth in the future and also to help them chart the educational and vocational course befitting their intellectual and physical capabilities?

/Answer/ We have noticed that some of our youth prefer general education and prefer to continue their /higher/ academic education at the expense of technical education and vocational training. They prefer government jobs to semiskilled work in the private sector. We have also found out that these manifestations may lead to a future shortage of national labor, despite the presence of the policies and institutions capable of offering training.

This is why we have begun to prepare a long-range program for educational and technical guidance and for the technical secondary schools to encourage and attract students, through enlightenment, to enroll in these schools out of conviction in the importance of these schools to them and to the homeland.

This program provides for several successive phases. The first phase focuses on studying the reasons and causes of the problems and their location, on defining the public targeted by this guidance and on selecting the most effective means of enlightenment and persuasion to increase the percentage of students, depending on their mental and physical capabilities, in the technical and vocational training institutes and schools so that this enrollment may be compatible with these institutes' absorption capacity and with the present and expected future needs of the labor market.

In order that the effort may be made through vigilant awareness and deep belief in the importance of this educational and vocational course, the guidance plan will focus on enlightenment with the scientific methods of vocational training, its role in serving the Omani individual and society, its place on the educational map, the extent of the need for this training and its educational and social objectives. The plan will also focus on directing the attention of the students, their guardians and the public opinion leaderships to the immediate and long-term material and moral gains of vocational training, to the degree of the state's interest in this training and to the efforts exerted to develop it in order to encourage students to enroll in vocational training institutes and centers.

The plan also depends on direct personal contact between social guides and teachers on the one hand and local public opinion leaders, students and their guardians on the other hand to engage in dialogue, to exchange views and opinions and respond to questions, apprehensions and observations. The direct personal contacts are supported by programs selected by the radio, television and the press to spread information and new ideas in all parts of the sultanate wherever the youth and their guardians exist.

These personal contacts and media efforts are reinforced by academic educational programs that focus on the attention and respect accorded manual labor and on encouraging it as a constant educational line adopted and tended by the Sultanate of Oman.

This complete plan will be implemented, after it is approved, as of the next scholastic year, now that arrangements and preparations have been made for it for a long time to insure that it is given the biggest chance of success in achieving its objectives, God willing.

## Student and Modern Technology

/Question/ What are the steps taken by the Ministry of Education in your dear country to link the student in the various stages of education with the world's modern technologies and to include these technologies within the curricula?

/Answer/ The steps taken by the Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs to link the youth in the various stages of education with the modern technologies are the following:

The Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs has introduced a wise policy of diversifying education generally and of introducing technological materials as of the elementary and preparatory stages. This entails the importation of some equipment and tools for the workshops to enable the students to conduct the experiments and demonstrations adopted from modern international experiments so as to enlighten the student and implant the spirit of cooperation and of modern industrialization in him.

At the level of the secondary stage of the specialized industrial, business and agricultural schools, sophisticated machinery, along with experts, has been brought from Germany so that it may be installed and used in the Sahhar Secondary Industrial School.

When the business schools for male and female students were completed, an electronic computer system, a language laboratory and a telex were supplied to strengthen the secretarial studies section. In the agricultural schools, especially the maintenance workshop, /sentence incomplete/.

## Role of Arab Gulf States' Education Bureau

/Question/ What is your excellency's opinion of the educational, cultural and scientific role performed by the Arab Gulf States' Education Bureau? And what are your future aspirations regarding the educational, cultural and scientific activities it engages in?

/Answer/ There is no doubt that from the time it was founded and until the present, the Arab Gulf States' Education Bureau has been performing an effective role at the educational and cultural levels. Each of these two roles is embodied in the following:

At the educational level, the bureau performs an active role in finding a common formula in the efforts to achieve coordination and integration between the various aspects of the educational process at all its levels. We appreciate the bureau's role and beneficial efforts in this sphere.

As for the cultural level, seminars are organized from time to time, some of them dealing with the civilizational and cultural aspect in this area and with what is new locally and internationally because we are not isolated from these intellectual currents. There are also the mutual visits between the sons of the Gulf states at all the educational and scientific levels. We will not be exaggerating if we say that we are living in a good situation in which we can aspire for a good future.

## LAW APPROVED ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN QATAR

Doha DAILY GULF TIMES in English 6 Jun 84 p 21

[Text] DOHA—The Qatari Advisory Council on Monday approved a draft law on participation of non-Qatari capital in the economic activities in this country. The law, after approval by the cabinet and a decree by the Amir, will enable nationals of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council (AGCC) to invest in Qatar.

The government policy has been in a limbo for nearly two years now. It was on February 21, 1981 that a law was passed laying down that any business establishment in the country should have 100 per cent Qatari capital. This law was enforced gradually and by the middle of last year, almost all the businesses, including industrial units, were taken over by Qatari capital. The only exception to the law is through an Amiri decree.

The exceptions are usually made when a foreigner brings in advanced technology or other such benefit to the country in the industrial, mining, agricultural and technical sectors. Before 1981, joint ventures between Qataris and foreigners were permitted, with 51 per cent Qatari capital. Another provision was that any business with a capital of less than QR 5,000 could be owned by a foreigner. Both these provisions were abolished in 1981.

The current draft law, approved by the Advisory Council, is the result of a unified agreement between the AGCC states permitting a Gulf national to invest freely in any of the member countries.

The Advisory Council met under the chairmanship of Speaker Abdulaziz bin Khaled Al Ghanem. It has amended several provisions of the law before approving the draft law. The draft, if passed by the cabinet, will amend law number 20 of 1963.



## BANK PROFITS DECLINE

Doha DAILY GULF TIMES in English 3 Jun 84 p 12

[Article by K N Sharma]

[Text] THE Commercial Bank of Qatar has reported a profit of QR20.5m last year despite "the overall shrinkage in private sector economic activity" and "significantly curtailed liquidity" during 1983. This represents a 17% drop in profit over the previous year.

But the bank has shown an overall growth in other activities, such as deposits, contra entries, assets and earnings on fee and commissions, which is likely to be the major test of success of the banking industry in future.

Finlay Moodie, general manager of the bank, has expressed satisfaction over the 1983 results "considering the general situation" in which "most banks have faced a dropped level of profit" in the country.

The CBQ's deposits rose by 19.4% to QR458m and assets from QR502m to QR572.6m.

The bank's total income during 1983 amounted to QR53.7m against QR62.4m in the previous year, and expenses to QR33.2m against QR37m.

The board of directors has declared a cash dividend of 15% against 20% in the previous year.

The shareholders equity has gone up from QR59m in 1981 to QR91m in 1983, and it is almost impossible to get a CBQ share in the market", said Moodie.

Presenting the bank's annual report, chairman Sheikh Ali bin Jabor al-Thani says the growth in the business of letters of credit and guarantees — amounting to QR1bn "confirms our high quality client portfolio" and the confidence the public reposes.

"In reassessing the events of the past year and realistically viewing the future, we are optimistic regarding further growth," he said.

The bank opened a branch in Wakra in 1983 — which is expected to show profit earlier than expected this year.

Preparations for the bank's proposed headquarters at Grand Hamad Avenue has passed the design, planning and approval stage. Tender documents are likely to be issued after the Ramadan. The building is to be constructed to the highest specifications and will include the latest technological features. The bank proposes to move to the new premises during 1986.

The bank's annual report shows the ratio of performance excep-

tionally good with substantial financial soundness. The bank is training Qatari officers to take on operational responsibilities. A young Qatari was appointed assistant general manager of the bank in 1983.

## AFGHANISTAN

### VISITING SWEDISH REPORTER ON REGIME'S PSYCHOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN

#### Money Used as Incentive

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 3 Jun 84 p 16

[Article by Sven Lindqvist: "A Different Revolution--The Government Is Buying the People"]

[Text] The Afghanistan revolution is not like the others. It offers its opponents permanent employment. The government pays monthly wages to people who are willing to join the revolution.

That is the latest measure by the Kabul regime in the struggle for power in the country. Entire units of guerrillas, which can not be defeated militarily, are bought up with excellent wages, handsome uniforms and military titles. Then they are given the job of fighting against their former comrades in the opposition movement.

I met such a guerrilla commander who went over to the government side and became a militia officer in the rural district of Deh Sabz, a short distance outside the industrial area east of Kabul.

I drove there together with a functionary from the party headquarters. He assured me that the area is now completely pacified, but for safety's sake he had an automatic carbine and four magazines on the floor of the jeep.

#### District Council

First we dropped in on the district party secretary Mohammed Nabi. He said that the district consists of 47 towns with a total population of 40,000. It is governed by a district council which is elected by 26 town councils, or jirghas.

The district has 8 agricultural cooperatives and 3 consumer cooperatives, with a total of 2,000 members. Four farmer committees manage the allocation of water and decide disputes over water questions.

There are 75 teaching circles, of which over 20 are for women. There are 21 divisions of the Youth League, and 9 of the Women's League. All in all, Deh Sabz must be the most thoroughly organized district in the entire country.

The former holder of power was Malik Sayed Ahmad. He owned 20,000 jeribas of land in the district. Now he is dead and his sons have fled to Pakistan. Since 1980 3,400 jeribas of his land have been distributed to 930 families in the district, and the distribution continues "at a slow, steady pace."

"Was any land distributed before 1980?"

"Yes, but in the wrong way. They did not know how much land there was for distribution, or how many should share it. No political work was done to prepare the farmers. Even holy land belonging to religious institutions was distributed. The result was that the farmers did not use the land which they received, but they disappeared to Pakistan and became bandits.

"Now we are proceeding carefully and going slowly but surely forward. The only peasants who get land are those who are willing to defend it. We have 7 homeguard groups of 300 men, and 4 militia groups of 500 men--they are all former bandits who have come over to the government side."

It was such a group that they primarily wanted to show me, and therefore we went to the former khan's adobe palace in the town of Deh Yahya, now the militia headquarters where Lieutenant Abdul Hadi is an officer.

In 1979 Abdul Hadi and his men joined Hezb-i-Islami, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's guerrilla organization.

"Why did you join the opposition movement?"

"Because of oppression under the Amin regime."

"Did you receive any pay from Hezb?"

"No, we received no pay, but we were given weapons and orders. We received a letter telling us to destroy schools and bridges. Now we are rebuilding the same schools and bridges."

"Did you also attack military posts and convoys?"

"Yes, of course we did."

"Why did you change sides?"

"We did not approve of the orders we were given. We did not want to fight against our brothers. We compared the state with the bandits, and thought the state was better. And so we were offered jobs in the militia."

"How many were you altogether?"

#### Bandit Groups

"In the beginning we were 28. When we went over to the government side in February 1982 we were 85 men from three different towns. We were given jobs for all 85, and also for those from our three towns who had belonged to other bandit groups. Altogether we are 220 former bandits who now make up a militia unit."

"And how much do they pay you?"

"A private soldier gets 3,000 afs per month (about \$60 according to the official exchange), officers are paid more. As a lieutenant I get 8,000 afs (\$175).

"How much is an elementary school teacher paid?"

"A newly graduated elementary school teacher gets 2,000," said the party secretary. "It is right that a soldier should get more. His work is more dangerous and more important. He stands face to face with the enemy."

"How many 'bandits' from these towns are still in the opposition movement?"

"Very few," said the party secretary, "perhaps five or ten."

"No, that is not correct," said Lieutenant Hadi. "There are over 120. But most have families here in the towns, so they will soon come over also. They want to be home with their wives and children, just as we did."

Wives and children and a small farm and a state job with a salary--that is not bad bait on the hook.

In the government propaganda the Afghan opposition movement is always represented as purchased by United States imperialism. In the cartoons the guerrillas are always shown taking fat money bags from the hairy claws of the United States. The guerrillas are shown as dogs on a dollar leash, licking the soles of imperialists' shoes to get paid in gold coins.

But the turncoat 'bandit' Abdul Hadi said loud and clear that he was paid nothing while he was in the opposition movement. On the other hand the government pays well. Just in this district they spent one-half million dollars or 4 million kronor per year to buy the loyalty of former guerrilla groups.

It is probably a profitable business. These 500 men, if they were still with the guerrillas, would probably cause damage worth more than 4 million kronor per year. To fight them militarily would also cost more than 4 million. Therefore it is profitable to buy them. To buy up the opposition

in all the country's districts in the same way would cost a couple of billion kronor. Probably even that would be profitable, compared with what the war is costing.

### Loyalty

But can a government buy a people? Can an occupying power (because in the last analysis it is the Russians who pay and decide) buy loyalty and call it a revolution?

They are trying. But everyone is not for sale. One of the guerrilla commanders that I met in Peshawar said that he had several offers from the government.

"We will 'together develop the country and make the people prosperous,' they wrote, and offered me a car, a house and money."

"And what did you reply?"

"I replied: Come over to us instead. We certainly have no money to offer. But we have a God and a fatherland."

### Education Effort Plays Role

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 8 Jun 84 p 14

[Article by Sven Lindqvist: "Regime's Literacy Campaign Examined--Lies and Contradictions"]

[Text] Can one trust the authorities in Kabul? The president of the Afghan literacy campaign tells of results which differ widely from the country's own official statistics. "We inherited a bad situation from the old society--98 percent of the women and 90 percent of the men were illiterate," said Dr Baten Shah Zafarzai, president of the Afghan literacy campaign.

"When the monarchy fell in 1973 a small organization was created to solve the problem. It arranged 693 courses for 19,672 illiterates, of which 5,261 actually completed the course and learned to read.

"After the revolution, and especially during its new evolutionary phase (meaning since the Russian invasion), the struggle against illiteracy has received the highest priority. In 1980 we established the goal that illiteracy in the cities would be eliminated in 7 years, and in the countryside in 10 years. It is obligatory for men between 9 and 50 to learn to read. For older men and for women it is voluntary. All state institutions will participate in the campaign, and each party member will teach at least five people how to read."

The campaign includes the following points:

1) Basic course. Here they study three readers in one of the following languages: Pashto, Dari, Baluch or Uzbek.

2) Women's program. Women who have completed the basic course can continue with a course which also includes child care, health, first aid etc. at the same time as they continue their literacy training.

3) Children's program. This includes 10,000 children who would have gone to one of the 1,732 schools which were destroyed by the counterrevolution. They receive 2 years of intensive study and are then placed in the 5th grade in a regular school. It is believed that the schools reach about 60 percent of the children who are at the age to begin school.

4) Agricultural program. In connection with the new agricultural cooperatives courses have been established in agricultural training, use of fertilizers, machinery technology etc. for farmers who have completed the basic course.

5-7) Practical courses in sewing, typing etc. which give useful skills and maintain reading ability.

"And how many people are participating in these programs," I asked.

"Just in the basic courses we have in these 4 years organized 2.4 million people. Of these 1.5 million have completed the courses and learned how to read, and one-third of these were women."

"A truly impressive success! Of the 1.5 million who learned how to read, how many live in cities and densely populated areas?"

"About 70 percent. It is naturally easiest to reach them there."

Immense Task

"How many illiterates remain?"

"There are 7-8 million people or 75 percent of the population over age 9 still illiterate. An immense task remains. It is still dangerous, especially in the countryside, for girls to learn to read. Thousands of girls have been killed for taking part in our courses. The counterrevolution knows that literacy is dangerous for their cause, and therefore they aim at hindering our courses. Many teachers have been killed."

"How many teachers do you have and how many have been killed?"

"We have about 15,000 teachers in the courses, and about one-third of them have been killed and replaced by others."

"Does that mean that you concentrate on the interior of the country, and beware of the border provinces near Pakistan?"

"On the contrary. It is there that the courses are most needed. In Nangarhar on the Pakistan border we have 30,000 participants, in Pakthia about 15,000. It is a heroic effort by both teachers and students."

When I left Dr Zafarzai I was properly impressed. What he said was in sharp contrast to the indifference and often antipathy toward literacy which I saw in the opposition movement in Peshawar. To have taught 1.5 million people to read is, however, an accomplishment that any government could be proud of. The result also shows that the government could not be entirely out of touch with its people, I thought.

Until I sat in the airplane on the way home and had the opportunity to read the statistical almanac of the Kabul Government, "Economic and Social Indicators" dated March 1984.

There I found the following table showing the results of the literacy campaign:

<u>Literacy Courses</u>	<u>1979-80</u>	<u>1980-81</u>	<u>1981-82</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Courses	12,242	4,955	3,013	6,738
Teachers	8,234	2,951	1,607	4,143
Students	353,810	137,325	59,951	108,278
Graduated students	41,724	45,764	900	7,260

Source: "Economic and Social Indicators 1979-1983" pp 13-14

#### Difference

What should I believe? In Afghanistan there is clearly a big difference between the figures used to throw dust in the eyes of stupid foreign journalists and the figures delivered to their own statistical authorities. In this case it seems that the truth was just a fraction of the lie. Courses were taken by 650,000 people, not 2.4 million; 95,000 people had learned how to read, not 1.5 million.

When one encounters effrontery of this magnitude one is made to feel slightly dizzy, and asks himself, "Why should I believe that even the lower figures are reliable? Is there really any literacy campaign other than the one on display in Kabul?"

Let us hope that there is. But one can not be sure.

And what about the "thousands" of murdered girls and the 5,000 murdered teachers which the opposition was guilty of, they must have come from the same fantasy which gave Dr Zafarzai his alleged successes. In my opinion his reliability was finished.



I came to Kabul with the same basic questions which I tried to have answered in Peshawar. What are the sources of the news? How reliable are they?

The only news sources in Kabul are the authorities themselves. I could not take a step without the accompaniment of my two watchdogs from the journalists union and the news bureau. I was taken from one official interview to another in accordance with a prepared program.

The people I spoke with often seemed sympathetic. On many points we seemed to have the same values. I am no religious fanatic, I believe that children should go to school, I favor land reform and literacy courses.

But I had no opportunity to compare what they told me with reality. I could only compare the information from the different authorities and interview persons with each other. These comparisons confused me all the more. Nothing seemed to agree.

The vice minister of defense said that the army controlled the entire country and that guerrilla activity had ceased. The vice minister of plans blamed the past year's doubling of wheat prices on a tripling of transport costs caused by increased guerrilla activity.

In nearly every other interview I was told that the guerrillas were bandits paid by the United States. But when they let me talk to some of these "bandits," none of them had been paid while in the opposition movement, but they spoke openly of how well they were paid by the government.

And now I had heard the president of the literacy campaign boast about successes 3-15 times greater than reported in Afghanistan's official statistics.

I came home from Kabul with a deep suspicion of all information which originates there. Whatever values we may have in common, it is clear that respect for the truth is not among them.

9287

CSO: 3650/220

## EDITORIAL ON IRAQI ATTACKS ON OIL TANKERS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 23 May 84 p. 2

[Editorial: "Playing with Fire"]

[Text]

The show of power by Iraq in attacking the oil tankers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, could have been useful for the Baghdad regime from two points of view. First, to show that Iraq is powerful and thus intimidate the reactionary regimes in the region and secondly to disrupt Iran's oil exports and consequently compel the Islamic Republic to accept an imposed peace.

In the first case, it might be said that Iraq has been successful to some extent. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, by selling oil on behalf of Iraq, are the financiers of Saddam's arms purchases. The Iraqi regime, learning that its friends are procrastinating in their support, has blackmailed them through threats or bombings. A review of the history of relations between Iraq and Kuwait will prove this claim.

On the other hand, Saddam has made the regional sheikhs believe that if he goes, they will be next. The U.S. has also intimidated these regimes by warning them that the Islamic Revolution will disturb their governments. For this same reason, when they saw that Saddam attacked their ships to disrupt Iran's oil exports, not only did they not frown, they became happy.

On the second issue, the U.S. and the Soviet Union as well as the other backers of Iraq have realized that the Islamic Republic is determined in its war effort and because of the oil exports, Iran is capable of enforcing its conditions for ending the war.

Therefore, they imagined that with the disruption in Iran's oil exports, the Islamic Republic would be weakened and forced to accept an imposed peace.

The attacking of oil tankers in other points of the Persian Gulf disturbed the equation. The reason for this is obvious. The Iraqi regime is implementing the ideas of the superpowers. Therefore, its action and reaction can always be calculated. But the Islamic Republic, due to its independent nature, decides for itself. The world cannot foresee its options. This is what was said in the very first year of the revolution, by Zbigniew Brzezinski. He noted, that politics is like a chess game. Both sides see their opponent clearly. They both play with a single formula. But the former U.S. security chief said there is ambiguity in recognizing the moves of the Islamic Republic.

This ambiguity stems from the fact that the source of administration and decision making in the Islamic Republic is not outside its borders.

In any event, the conspiracy was foiled on the very first days of its emergence. They imagined it was Iraq which was showing her power, but realized soon that there were others too. They thought that Iran's oil exports would be cut but conceived that the exports of all might be disrupted. The regimes of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are well aware that due to their lack of popular support and their total dependence on oil and imported goods, they could not survive without oil. They should have predicted this situation when they applauded Iraq for attacking their tankers.

The Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al-Faisal has asked the Arab League to take action against Iran. After the clear statement of the Saudi defense minister asking for condemnation of the ships' attacker, this pronouncement shows the confusion of the Saudi officials.

How is it that the Arab League has never been able to stand against Israel's aggression which has so humiliated Arabism and the Arabs? How come the Arabs, especially Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, kept silence towards the brutal Israeli aggressions in Lebanon and offered all kinds of support to Gemayel's government ... but now they have suddenly remembered the Arab Charter. The reality is

*that as long as the Arabs want the United States to decide for them, they will lose their oil, their independence and their honor. They know that Saddam's regime will not remain and further investment for preserving him means more losses for them.*

*If the regimes of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait return to Islam and leave the United States, they would have in fact returned to their peoples. Their governments would find a permanent balance and in such a situation they would see security in the region under the auspices of Islam. The United States, the Soviet Union and other powers could then no longer play with the destiny of Islam and Muslims.*

CSO: 4600/616

WEST ADVISED NOT TO 'FALL VICTIM' TO REAGAN'S RE-ELECTION

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 3 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by H. Musavian in the "Message of Today column: "Reagan's Presidency Victim to the Persian Gulf"]

[Text]

THE UNITED STATES presidential elections will be held within the next few months. The coincidence of the election campaigns with the Persian Gulf issue has prevented the White House from coming up with any decisive stance in solving the problem.

It is so because Reagan is well aware of the fact that escalation of tensions in the Persian Gulf is a great weak point in his foreign policies. He knows as well that any direct intervention in the Persian Gulf will be a grave mistake that may cost him his chance for reelection.

Another problem facing Reagan is his politico-economic commitments to fulfill the demands of his European allies.

Now if the Persian Gulf crisis remains unsolved, immense economic interests of the west will be at stake and a solution to the matter has to be found by the U.S. from the West's point of view. Such an expectation of course rests on the ground that all the regional countries involved in the Iraqi imposed war against Iran such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia..., are US puppets and that it is the U.S. that gave the green light for the escalation of the crisis.

But the European allies of the U.S. must note that reelection to presidency is more important to Reagan than the interests of the former and that since he does not want to take any tough action lest he may risk his chance for presidency, it is then quite natural that it will be the European

countries which should sustain the heaviest of economic blows on their vital interests in the Persian Gulf.

Certainly if the Western countries fail to take actions that can stop the insane Iraqi regime from attacking vessels and making the Persian Gulf insecure for shipping, they have to prepare for yet more inflation, unemployment and other economic disturbances.

It is then to the benefit of the Western states not to let their vital interests fall a victim to the U.S. presidential elections and the personal interests of Reagan... because most probably, Reagan will not be reelected due to the Persian Gulf crisis which he himself has initiated by encouraging the Iraqi regime to escalate the war.

His predecessor, Jimmy Carter lost his chance to hostages issue and he (Reagan) will have to pay the price for ordering the Baghdad regime to disturb international shipping in a bid to pressurise the Islamic Republic.

The Western countries should realize that their military, political and propaganda support for the Ba'athist regime of Iraq will put their own political situation at stake. The reason is simply that Saddam is doomed to go but the consequences of his downfall, the shame and economic blows for the West will remain.

CSO: 4600/613

EDITORIAL ON ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS FINAL RESOLUTION

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 24 May 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Blindness to Realities"]

[Text]

**Certain Arab states are tempted to take hostile action against the Islamic Revolution, yet they fear this might produce new problems and encourage Washington to trouble the Persian Gulf waters.**

**The final resolution of the Arab foreign ministers held in Tunis indicates that the Arab diplomats are not capable of presenting a realistic appraisal of the situation in the region and rely on biased information filed by the western mass media in this connection.**

**Washington's support for the stance adopted by the Tunis confab, should be regarded as a warning to the Arab countries. How come the U.S., the backer of Israel and humiliator of the Arabs, has this time declared support for the Arabs? The history of the past three decades does not reflect one instance of Washington's generous siding with the Arabs. The Muslim nations should deliberate on the question as to why U.S. policy-makers insist on encouraging the Arabs to join a destructive war?**

**Washington knows very well that after the fall of Baghdad and the end of the war, the issue of Palestine will undoubtedly be put at the top of the programs as the main issue of the Middle East. Then the Arab countries would be compelled to either join the anti-Israeli front or at least not obstruct it. It would not take long, under these circumstances, to decide the fate of Israel and end the issue of Palestine.**



Under present conditions and with the U.S. presidential elections approaching, Reagan is endeavoring to distract public opinion from the issue of Israel. The message of the U.S. president to the Tunis assembly can also be interpreted in this same connection.

As long as the Arab reaction is in power and so long as it serves U.S. interests, Washington will never embark on direct intervention in the Persian Gulf. The return of the bodies of American victims in this adventurism, would work against Reagan in the presidential elections. For this reason Washington, while expressing its impatience over developments in the region, still counts on the stupidity of her Arab clients.

The telegram of support from Reagan was aimed only at encouraging the Saudi imperial court and other regional courts to overlook objective realities. In this connection, all of western imperialism's possibilities will be at the disposal of the Arab kings so that they can find a solution through internationalizing the crisis.

How can the regional courts explain to their nations as to why international organizations did not react to the massacre of the Lebanese and Palestinian Muslim people, but now the Arab kings are suddenly provided all facilities in order to internationalize the crisis caused by the Iraq-Iran war? Were not the victims of the Israeli aggression against Palestine and Lebanon, Arabs? Why has the Arab League never adopted a strong aggressive position against the crimes of Israel?

Where is the Arab reaction really leading to? Has it thought about tomorrow when it will live at peace under the protection of the Islamic Republic? Is there a return from the path Arab reaction is treading? It would be better for the regional states to understand it is not logical for them to destroy all the bridges behind them.

## TEHRAN REPORTEDLY 'DEEPENS' TRADE TIES WITH ISLAMABAD

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 6 Jun 84 p 2

[Text] TEHRAN - Ties between Pakistan and Iran, especially in the trade field, is deepening and is steadily on the rise, a review of press reports indicated yesterday.

IRNA said a Pakistani agricultural delegation is due in Tehran next month for talks with Iran's officials on sale of wheat to Iran during the current year (fiscal March 1984-85).

The official Pakistani News Agency reported that the Pakistani officials intend to sell an additional 300,000 tons of wheat to Iran. However, the exact figure would be decided after statistics on surplus wheat production become available.

On the basis of an agreement signed between the Islamic Republic and Pakistan last year, the latter was supposed to export 300,000 tons of wheat to Iran annually.

So far some 240,000 tons have been delivered.

The deputy commerce minister has recently announced that the Iranian non-oil exports to Pakistan for the year 1981-1982 amounted to Rls 5.4 billion (dhrs. 62.1 m) and for the following year was Rls 4.7 billion (dhrs. 54 m.).

However, the figure for the 1983-84 period was dhrs 360 million.

Meanwhile, the Pakistani minister of finance has said that Pakistan's imports from Iran for 1982-83 was about dhrs. 80 million.

He added that Pakistan purchased ten thousand barrels of oil a day from Iran.

On the other hand, Iran's ambassador to Pakistan said that annual volume of trade between the two countries was dhrs. 500 million, reported IRNA.

Meanwhile, United Press International reported Iran has offered to sell Pakistan 6,000 Mercedes Benz-type buses manufactured under licence from West Germany.

The news was attributed to a newspaper report in Islamabad quoting official sources.

The English-language Daily Dawn Karachi said the offer was made to a Pakistani government delegation, which recently returned from 10-day fact finding tour to Iran.

Iran, the largest buyer of Pakistani goods last year, offered to sell 6,000 Mercedes Benz-type buses manufactured under licence from West Germany. UPI quoted the newspaper as saying.

The Pakistani group, however, told the newspaper that Iran expressed reservations about the delivery schedules and continuity of Pakistani exports.

The Pakistani delegation

was assured that Iran will resume normal purchases of Pakistani textiles and other manufactured goods in due course, it was said.

The newspaper quoted an official at the Pakistan's export promotion bureau as saying that although exports from the private sector to Iran have dropped, the loss has been more than made up by exports of foodgrains such as rice, sugar, wheat and flour, UPI said.

IRAN

## COMBAT TRAINING RECOMMENDED FOR EVERYONE

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 11 June 84 p. 3

[Interview with Guards Corps Mobilization Head Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Rahmani by IRNA on 10 Jun 84; place not specified]

[Text] In an interview with IRNA yesterday afternoon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Rahmani, the head of the Guards Corps mobilization of the oppressed, responded to questions concerning the mobilization programs for the utmost preparedness of the nation present on the scene of our Islamic homeland to confront the superpowers and global oppression in the region, the continuation of the Labbayk or Khomeini plan, strengthening the mobilization resistance bases, the form and the procedure for the formation of mobilization rescue groups, which will serve under the title of Naserin rescue groups in the cities of the war-stricken regions and, in the future, in the cities and villages of our country.

The head of the Guards Corps mobilization first reviewed the recent events and conspiracies of the oppressive powers and their allies in the region and, in connection with the reasons for recalling the victory three forces, said: With the victory of the Islamic revolution and the spread of Islamic culture in the region, in order to protect their interests, the superpowers decided to prevent the spread and expansion of the revolution in the region any way possible. For this reason, first they engaged in nurturing their affiliated agents internally in order, as they thought, to maneuver the revolution in the direction they wanted. When they were disappointed in these dependent puppets, they engaged in another conspiracy. They set Iraq--which, because of the particular nature of the regime governing it, has historically opposed Islam--against Iran. They expected Iraq, because of its old ties with both the superpowers of the East and the West, to be a good tool in their hands. From the start of

the war--when the instigators saw that they were unable to fulfill their intention and that with every day that passed, the fall of Saddam became more serious--they tried to drag the war from one particular area to another, including the Persian Gulf, in order to, as they thought, create economic and political restrictions and thereby defeat the Islamic revolution of Iran. For this reason, simultaneous with the expansion of these conspiracies, the victory three combative forces were recalled to confront any possible action. In this connection, soon a seminar called the victory seminar will be held throughout all cities with the participation of the Friday and congregational imams.

Then, inviting all the people to take the combat training course for probable confrontation with any kind of conspiracy against the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahmani said: We invite all those who have not yet completed military and combat training courses to come to the mobilization and Guards Corps bases for military training to confront the conspiracies of global oppression in the region. He added: In continuing this plan for mobilization and general combat training, the Guards Corps unit of the mobilization of the oppressed has prepared a plan for all the residents of the Persian Gulf coast to go to the bases and mobilization centers to be prepared for any sort of problem in the region. The head of the Guards Corps mobilization also added in connection with the procedure to continue the Labbayk or Khomeyni plan: Many thought that with the presence of the forces of the Labbayk plan on the fronts and the execution of the preliminary maneuvers for the liberation of Jerusalem, the programs of this plan had finished. But the Labbayk or Khomeyni plan in fact covers the forces which have gone to the front and is itself a beginning of the establishment of the army of 20 million. In continuing this plan and towards the reconstruction of the Jerusalem battalions, the first stage of this maneuver will be held in early fall of this year.

In connection with the establishment of the rescue and emergency group of the mobilization soon to be formed under the name of Naserin in the war regions and then throughout the country, he added: The Guards Corps unit of the mobilization of the oppressed has a plan underway for the mobilization emergency groups under the title of Naserin rescue and emergency groups to handle emergency incidents.

This group will serve as the operational arm of the emergency and support headquarters for the bombed areas, under the supervision of Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani. In conclusion, the head of the mobilization of the Guards Corps invited all the people to participate in general military training and summer camps, the programs of which have been announced to all the bases and units of the mobilization. Eligible persons who wish to do their

military service in the Guards Corps and the mobilization are asked to go to the admission units of these two centers to receive the service readiness papers and be sent to service. He also asked competent expert forces in various fields to go to the absorption unit of the expert forces of the mobilization and the Guards Corps located in Tehran, on Keshavarz Boulevard, at the beginning of Felestin Street. The head of the Guards Corps mobilization of the oppressed also suggested the centralized formation of a headquarters with the participation of ministries, factories, and other industrial institutions with war expertise, each of the members providing for needs according to their ability. Considering the historical principle that in many countries war results in industrial growth and movement, in fostering industrial self-sufficiency, the needs of the battlefronts will be provided.

10,000

CSO: 4640/289

FREE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM EXPLAINED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 11 June 84 p 21

[Interview with Free Islamic University President Dr 'Abdollah Jasebi; date and place not specified]

[Text] The motivation behind the establishment of this university and its goals, activities, administrative system, management, and budget were explained in a press conference with Dr 'Abdollah Jasebi, the president of this university.

First, concerning the establishment of the free Islamic university, Dr Jasebi said: After the preliminary plan for the charter was devised, a five-member committee was formed consisting of President Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, Speaker of the Majlis Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Engineer Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni, and myself. Later, on 16 February 1982, the free Islamic university was registered. After the related bylaws were devised, the first students were admitted last year.

Concerning the reasons for the establishment of the university, the president of the free Islamic university said: At the present time, a million persons are waiting to take entrance examinations and to enter the university, and despite the reopening of the universities, it is impossible to absorb this number. Since the Islamic Republic wants to open the way to higher education for all the people, the free university can play a major role in absorbing these applicants.

He then added: The second reason for establishing the free university was that after the cultural revolution, the Islamic forces expected to bring university sciences outside the walls of the universities and to the people. Through specific decisions, the free university can bring the university to the people.

The third motivation behind the establishment of the free university was to ensure that university education would not be exclusive to large cities and provincial capitals but would cover the whole country.

In another part of his statements, Dr. Jasebi said concerning the goals of the free university: The goals of the university include promoting sciences and technology in the society, raising the educational level of the people, and meeting the specialized needs of the society.

To provide for individual needs is another goal of the university. The free university will provide the resources for those who want higher education.

Concerning the educational courses of the free university, Dr. Jasebi said:

The free university has four educational programs. The first is at the expertise and specialization level (associate and bachelor degrees). The work of this course has been very successful. 3,000 students have been admitted in 14 fields.

The second program is the single subject course. It has been a very successful system.

In the single subject course, individuals may take one or more credit units according to their needs or requirements and at the end of this course, which may even last 12 or 15 years, they may receive expertise or specialization associate or bachelor's degrees.

The third program was created in accordance with the message of the Imam's message of 11 February 1984, which stated: "Try to provide domestic educational resources so that there is no need to go abroad."

Those at the master's level may take part in this program. The student admissions requirements for the 1385-1386 academic year will be announced within the next week.

The fourth program of the free university includes the learning and completion programs to train the staff of the administrative offices and government institutions to gain scientific expertise and awareness.

Then, concerning the specifics of the free university, Dr. Jasebi said: This university is special in that it is a center and a university. Like the theological university, the free university, there are no age or degree restrictions.



who have had higher education and who intend to serve the Islamic Republic may enter the free university.

He then added: At the present time, 14 branches of this university admit students--in Tehran, Yazd, Tabriz, Mashhad, Zahedan, Qa'emshahr, Ahvaz, Rudhan, Kerman, Jiraf, Rasht, Shahrud, Borujerd and Sanandaj--in basic engineering sciences, agriculture, and fields such as the humanities and accounting. Also, the opening of units in several cities is being studied and several other cities have also applied for a university unit.

Concerning the resources of the free university, Dr Jasebi said: The free university will make use of any resources at its disposal. In regards to the educational atmosphere, in addition to the centers of the university, mosques, religious centers, ministry halls, and even high schools will be used.

Students may use the laboratory facilities and factories. This is also true of the professors. The free university will use retired professors and even students who are able to teach.

Concerning the budget of the university, the president of the free university said:

The free university does not intend to turn into a government organization; it receives aid from various sources. In the beginning of the university's operation, the imam extended 10 million rials in aid, and this year, 50 million rials. In the future, with the help of the students and the tuition collected, and most importantly the aid of the people, the university budget will be provided.

In conclusion, Dr Jasebi said in regards to aid to the free Islamic university which began on 8 June and will continue through 18 June:

To facilitate the people's aid to the university, account No 1600 has been opened in the Zabarjad branch of Melli Bank, into which you may deposit from all branches. Those who are unable to give cash aid may help the university in various ways, such as donating books, laboratory equipment, educational space, and even free services to the university.

10,000

CSO: 4640/288

## BRIEFS

DEMONSTRATIONS IN TABRIZ--The heroic people of Tabriz, these trailblazers of freedom and exaltation in Iran, expressed their national aspirations yesterday in a street demonstration with slogans of "Death to Khomeyni," and called for the downfall of the Islamic regime and the formation of a legal government in Iran. Yesterday's demonstrations by the Tabriz people were interpreted by informed sources as an expression of the determination of a nation against a regime which is up to its neck in a quagmire. Reports from national elements which have reached us this morning say that the demonstrations were so widespread that the criminal guards of the regime were not able to crush it, and in a clash with the demonstrators some of the guards were seriously wounded. Preliminary reports say that the united resistance of the demonstrators forced the guards to withdraw and abstain from a confrontation with the people. We are awaiting detailed information in this respect from the epic making city of Tabriz and will let you know as reports come in. [Text] [GF091648 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 9 Jun 84]

SPIRALING FOOD PRICES--With the escalation of crisis in the Persian Gulf and the tightening of the naval siege of Khark Island, the scale of hoarding and blackmarketeering of foodstuffs has increased. The acting director of the economic mobilization headquarters admitted in Tehran yesterday that prices have spiraled more than ever before and dealers are not ready to sell goods at official prices. He confirmed that the government cannot do anything under the present circumstances. He asked the people to combat hoarding and high prices by refraining from purchase or consumption of goods. This incompetent and inefficient person announced that potatoes are being sold to people at the rate of (?200) tumans but he did not say what the poor, low-salaried people and the government employees were to do in the face of a flood of high prices and blackmarketeering. It should be recalled that on numerous occasions, the merchants and traders have pointed out that the government and the affiliated organizations are the actual causes of the economic corruption and pillage and the strings of procurement and distribution are in their hands. The economic mobilization, which came into existence in order to (?nationalize) the country's economy through the services of Behzad Nabavi, is the actual agent of shortage and economic pressure on the people. [Text] [GF101808 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 10 Jun 84]

CSO: 4640/274,278

## BRIEFS

NEW FRENCH ENVOY--Kathmandu, May 30 (AFP)--Nepal's King Birendra received France's new ambassador to Nepal, Lionel de Warren, in audience yesterday at Narayanhity Royal Palace, an official announcement said today. Ambassador de Warren succeeded Francis Deloche de Noyelle two weeks ago. After the state visit of President Francois Mitterrand to Nepal last year, France emerged as one of Nepal's most important aid partners. France has extended 127 million French francs (15.2 million dollars) in aid, of which 20 percent was in the form of grants and the rest in long-term soft loans. In last December's Nepal Aid Consortium meeting in Paris, France pledged to give Nepal 24 million dollars in aid for 1984. [Text] [BK311615 Hong Kong AFP in English 0610 GMT 30 May 84 BK]

FUEL AGREEMENT WITH USSR--The Soviet Union is to supply necessary diesel and kerosene to Nepal under an agreement signed between the two countries in Moscow recently. The Nepalese delegation, led by the supply secretary, Sant Bahadur Rai, returned to the capital after concluding the agreement. Under the agreement Nepal is to import 80,000 tons of diesel and 20,000 to 40,000 tons of kerosene from the Soviet Union within the period September 1984 to November 1985. Nepal Oil Corporation has signed a separate agreement with the Soviet Union for the import of petrol. [Text] [BK311615 Kathmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 31 May 84 BK]

CSO: 4600/611

DAWN EDITORIAL ON GULF SITUATION

GF110520 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Jun 84 p 7

[Editorial: "Gulf War--Restraint or Escalation?"]

[Text] What impact the UN Security Council's resolution adopted on Friday will have on the Gulf war, it is still too early to say. The motion confines itself to calling a halt to attacks on commercial ships en route to and from states that are not party to the hostilities. Seen in the context of the preamble of the resolution, which mentions the six Gulf states' complaint against Iran and the specific reference to attacks on ships sailing to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the Security Council's call to halt attacks on shipping is primarily addressed to Iran alone.

It was not considered necessary to call upon Iraq to exercise restraint possibly because the attacks Iraq has launched on neutral shipping have been mainly in the war exclusion zone near Iran's territorial waters. This technical distinction notwithstanding, it is certain that both combatants have adopted policies which are potentially dangerous and could lead to a widening of the conflict.

Of late Iran has attacked three ships, the last attack having been launched more than a fortnight ago. The government in Tehran has not been constrained by the fact that these ships were in international waters or the territorial zone of another state not a party to the conflict. Iraqi assaults have been confined to the war zone but have taken a toll of forty ships (including Iranian vessels) in the last three months, 15 ships having been hit in the last two weeks since Iran fired on a Saudi Arabian vessel on May 16.

The Security Council's call on all states to respect in accordance with international law the right of free navigation has greater significance in the developing situation in the Gulf. The immediate need is to defuse the tension which has built up in the region after Iran and Iraq extended the fighting from their land borders to the maritime zone.

This has in the first place increased the danger of outside intervention. The members of the Gulf Cooperation Council have issued grave warnings that they are prepared to step in to protect their shipping in the Gulf. The danger of direct superpower intervention might not be so imminent at present but both

Washington and Moscow have clearly indicated that they might feel constrained to act to protect their interest in the Gulf. The United States has already taken measures to bolster the Gulf states' defences, one of them being the supply of Stinger missiles to Saudi Arabia.

In this situation the immediate need is to persuade the two combatants to exercise restraint so that mediating governments can work on plans for a cessation of the hostilities. A number of states are willing to mediate between the two parties in an effort to get them to agree to a cease-fire. The Turkish and the Yugoslav governments have offered their good offices to Iran and Iraq while the OIC's [Organization of Islamic Countries] peace committee has been working on plans to set up a buffer peace force and an arbitration tribunal.

What should give an impetus to the peace moves is the statement by the speaker of the Iranian Majlis, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, that Iran is willing to enter into peace negotiations so long as it does not lose its honour. One thing is, however, clear, that only that government can mediate effectively which establishes its credibility by adopting an even-handed stance. An approach which seeks to lay the blame on one or the other party for the escalating crisis or identifies itself too closely with one party will only antagonise the state under attack. This will not help create a climate conducive to diplomacy and negotiations.

CSO: 4600/612

# KESC-WAPDA AMALGAMATION AROUSES CONCERN, OPPOSITION

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 12 May 84 p 9

[Ilyas Shakir Column "Karachi Diary"]

[Text] Karachi has once again become lifeless. Cheerful politicians have deserted the colorful congregations in the city and have left for Lahore. Among those who have stayed behind, some are under treatment, some are resting and others are under detention. There is the feeling of a void everywhere. In this busy city inhabited by hundreds of thousands of people, the political headquarters lie desolate and empty. People are awaiting the arrival of their liberators, who would once again start caring for the abandoned garden.

The largest city in the country, which had become the center of protest against the amalgamation of KESC [Karachi Electric Supply Corporation] with WAPDA [Water and Power Development Authority], now is rather quiet. Karachi has its own problems. Its way of thinking and its expression of fear are different. The demonstration against the KESC-WAPDA amalgamation was similar to the one that took place in 1972 as a result of fear arising from the language bill presented in the Assembly. It was feared that if the provincial status of Urdu were to end, our economic interests would be adversely affected in the same way, similar waves of fear gripped the city after the announcement of the KESC-WAPDA amalgamation and violent reaction ensued in which each of the political parties, starting with the defunct Jamaat Islami, played a role. Prof Shah Faridul Haq went so far as to say that the next thing the government should do is to transfer Karachi to Islamabad. Maulana Shah Ahmed Noorani, speaking satirically, said that the government should also move Karachi Port Trust to Islamabad as well. Syed Munawwar Hassan of the defunct Jamaat Islami called the government's decision disgusting, and Khwaja Khairuddin, secretary general of MRD [Movement for the Restoration of Democracy], calling this action unbecoming of the federal government, said that such an action would certainly prove to be helpful to MRD in starting a second round of its campaign. On the day following Khwaja Khairuddin's statement, the government issued an explanation stating that the independent status of KESC would be maintained but that it would be under the supervision of WAPDA. Although the government's clarification satisfied the people of Karachi, a great many questions lingered in their minds. Intellectuals in Karachi called the decision to amalgamate KESC and WAPDA a rehearsal and predicted the possibility of a government announcement shifting PIA's head office from Karachi to

Islamabad as a next step. News reports to this effect are being published continuously. It may be acknowledged here that the government's decision is based on good will and administrative requirements. At the same time, certain elements could also interpret the decision erroneously. Sind is already a sensitive province. It would not be fair to get the people of Karachi involved in this dispute unnecessarily because the urban regions of Sind, including Karachi, have been making different kinds of sacrifices. They were not given their quota of employment in different fields in accordance with the census of 1981. The problem of the development budget also has yet to be solved. Despite all these complaints, the people of Karachi did not take any part in the campaign started by MRD. But if the present government is to take decisions of such a major and important nature that would prove detrimental to Karachi, then elements interested in creating trouble in the country will have an opportunity to use the people Karachi for their ends. This will give rise to a new wave of suspicion and distrust. Karachi is not the city of the people of any particular region; it is a "mini-Pakistan." New Sindhis, Sindhis, Punjabis, Pathans, Baluchis and Memons all live here. Providing facilities for this city means that the people of all of the provinces will be able to avail themselves of these facilities. Patriotic circles believe that decisions of an administrative nature should be left to the next elected government, so that the decisions are made after duly considering all aspects of the people's views, international requirements and the commercial importance of the city.

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## PAKISTAN

### OPPORTUNITIES OPEN TO NEW SIND GOVERNOR ASSESSED

Lahore NAWI-I-WAQT in Urdu 12 May 84 p 9

[Mohammad Ali column "Sind Diary"]

[Excerpts] The new governor of Sind, Lt Gen Jahandad Khan, after concluding his visit to all districts of Sind and recognizing the usefulness of direct contact, almost certainly has decided to take positive measures to streamline the administrative machinery and improve the law-and-order situation. Lt Gen Jahandad made it clear that instead of delivering speeches, lectures and sermons, he will adopt a policy of obtaining practical results and issue instructions to the administrative officials to solve the problems of the people with the help of elected leaders and members of municipal institutions. The strict measures that the governor of Sind declared he would take to punish professional criminals are already being implemented. People found patronizing crooks are being arrested without discrimination. The leader of the Muslim League, Pir Sahab Pagaro, has hinted at putting his Hur force under the command of the government to deal with lawlessness in upper Sind. During Ayub Khan's regime, when the government failed to round up the notorious crooks Ghulam Abbas Katohar and Mubeen Dohar and his gang and shelling of the forests failed to put an end to their activities, members of the Hur force of Pir Pagaro annihilated the gang. Members of the Hur force were summoned to safeguard peace and quiet during the MRD movement also.

The force was formed during the 1965 war. Its fighters have written with letters of blood the legends of heroism and bravery they performed on the borders of Sind in 1965 in defending the nation and the country and defeating the unholy designs of the enemy. The account given by Pir Pagaro about the activities of the Hur force in Sind and Upper Sind is of great importance and is indicative of the fact that the new government in Sind has the full support of Pir Pagaro. Some of the important figures in the defunct People's Party, too, will not constitute any obstacle to the new administration. As a practical result of a meeting between Sa'in Khatmuddin Shah, the chief successor to Makhdoomuzzaman Talibul Maula, and Pir Pagaro at Pir Jogoth, discussions on the formation of the cabinet may include individuals representing political groups. Administrative changes in Sind are considered an important step forward in improving the prevailing situation. Salam Farooqi, an officer holding an important position in the province's former administration, has been appointed joint secretary in the federal government. He played a key role in

the former administration and with the help of the municipal system of administration in Sind had been executing the duties of a liaison officer between the former governor and important personalities. But his circle of influence was very wide. Investigations carried out about the money spent on receptions given in honor of Lt Gen Abbasi, the former governor of Sind, have changed the current situation altogether. The people who claimed to have close connections with the former governor are now changing their allegiance. It has been a collective tragedy of this nation to honor and respect those in power and to turn away from them once they are removed from office. But in domestic politics there are some families who, whether they are in power or not, maintain firmness and equilibrium in their relationships. The Talpur family of Hyderabad is the custodian of such a legend. He welcomed Lt Gen Abbasi, the former governor of Sind, in his territory in the same way as political leaders and the late Mir Rasool Bakhsh Talpur were welcomed in the past. The former governor, in a conversation with NAWA-I-WAQT, revealed for the first time that he was on a month's leave and that it was his first leave in the past 6 years. The former governor, speaking at a reception given by the major of Hyderabad, expressed his determination to work for the people of Sind after taking up a federal post. But time flies, and once the umbrella of power is removed furious heat makes the face glow like copper. Rumors regarding the former governor are spreading in political circles and people who were once his colleagues when he was in power, being disappointed with his federal ministry, are realigning their allegiance. Despite the fact that the former Sind governor called the MRD campaign a struggle for democracy after his detailed out of Sind, Maulana Ehturamul Haq Thanvi, a prominent leader of the defunct People's Party commenting on the former governor's statement, said that an excuse for sin was worse than committing sin itself and that the people of Sind will never forget the injustices committed against them. The Maulana added that the governor was dreaming of becoming a hero to the people of Sind on the basis of appeasing the yes-men of municipal institutions. When his dreams could not be fulfilled he tried to deceive people by saying that he supported the MRD campaign. It is also being said that valuable land in Thatha and Dadu was allotted to influential people at cheap rates. An MRD group, opposed the allotment of land in the Cattle Farm to outsiders set up with the help of the Asian Bank. The major accusation against Punjab in the MRD campaign was that the people of Punjab acquired the illegal possession of land in Sind. But the interesting part of the whole affair is that out of acres of land given at Rs 70 per acre, not one acre was allotted to any individual from Punjab. On the contrary, the 10,000-acres were given to the Emirates Sheep and Cattle Farm, 5,000 acres to Seth Dawood, and 2,000 acres to prominent Karachi industrialist Begum Salma Ahmed. A delegation from Thatha submitted a petition in connection with agricultural land to the Sind governor. It stresses the need for continued investigation of agricultural land deals. Dr Hamid Khuhro and elements supporting her views made it the basis of their movement. Thus, attempts are being made to damage national unity and unanimity by inciting hundreds of thousands of landless Haris in the interior of Sind.

Different measures adopted by the administration are having a profound effect on the situation in Sind. The release of political workers is lessening tension. And now in the interior, more attention is being given to the

activities of decoits than to democracy. If the new administration succeeds in bringing the situation under control and the people living in the villages are assured of a sense of security, then this will be considered a major achievement, thus weakening the influence of the MRD on the prevailing situation. The regions in Sind that were scenes of the most violence in the MRD campaign are now centers of criminality and lawlessness. The decision taken by the Sind governor to deal with professional criminals with an iron hand has restored the courage and determination of the people. If the statements of the Sind governor are implemented, then the provincial government will be in the same position in inner Sind as was the case in Baluchistan, where the former military governor declared with pride that now the sardars will not be able to drive the Baluchis to the mountains.

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## DAWN EDITORIAL ON OIL EXPLORATION PROSPECTS

GF101412 Karachi DAWN in English 4 Jun 84 p 7

[Editorial: "Oil Exploration"]

[Text] The federal petroleum minister's announcement that 50 exploratory and development wells will be drilled during the next financial year is in accordance with the sixth plan's projections. But what one cannot be so certain about is that all the wells will actually be drilled. The sixth plan's target of drilling a total of 250 wells in five years means on an average 30 wells must be drilled every year. However, this target has not been met in the very first year of the plan. The total number of wells drilled during the current year in the public and private sectors is only 38 and this includes the exploratory well drilled at Dhandi in the Rahim Yar Khan district a few days back. No more wells are scheduled to be spudded till the end of the current financial year which ends on June 30. This shortfall in the first year of the sixth plan means that the agencies concerned will have to work hard to mobilise the public and private sectors to participate in oil exploration on a bigger scale than at present. The progress of the foreign companies in oil exploration has been quite disappointing. They did not show any interest in the international tenders floated for prospecting, exploration and development of oil resources. As such, the OGDC [Oil and Gas Development Corporation] will be expected to bear the major responsibility in the field.

Efforts must now be made to raise necessary funds and line up technical facilities. Pakistan can seek help from some of the oil-rich Islamic countries with whom it has been cooperating in the economic field. Thus the OGDC can try to obtain on favourable terms drilling rigs and other equipment from Iran where this machinery is either surplus or idle on account of a voluntary cut in oil production there. Pakistan should also seek to devise a strategy to step up oil exploration and development from its own indigenous resources in order to reduce its dependence on foreign oil companies. If the administrative set-up and operational practices of the OGDC are streamlined and made more business-oriented like those of private oil companies, the corporation can produce better results than before. The importance of stepping up oil exploration can hardly be overemphasised in view of the number of finds in recent months, mostly in the south. Out of the present total domestic production of about 14,700 barrels per day (BPD), the wells of Khaskheli and Leghari in the Badin District alone are producing about 7,000 BPD, that is, half of the entire country's production.

The latest discovery at Tando Alam near Hyderabad will add another 3,000 BPD. The oil discoveries in Sind have come at a time when production from the old wells in the north has begun to decline. Sind's oil wells have helped maintain the output of indigenous oil at about 10 percent of the total oil consumption in the country of about 130,000 BPD. The domestic production of oil should be increased by investing funds in oil exploration projects not only in lower Sind but also in offshore areas.

CSO: 4600/612

## DAWN EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON ENERGY RESOURCES

GF101428 Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jun 84 p 5

[Editorial: "Coming To Grips With Energy Crisis"]

[Text] That the country is in the grip of a serious energy crisis is evident from the regular loadshedding and frequent power breakdowns being experienced from Karachi to Khyber for the last two years. According to official projections, this crisis is expected to peak next summer when the supply-demand gap will be of about 803 MW. This gap will be there in spite of the 1,500 MW of additional power proposed to be commissioned over the next 12 months under the 1984-85 Annual Development Programme. The impact on the socio-economic life of the country of this widening energy supply-demand gap can only be described as calamitous. This crisis has not come up suddenly or accidentally. It has developed gradually over the last decade in full view of the country's economic managers and planners who seemed, during this period, to be unreasonably preoccupied [with] headlines and putting all eggs in the gas basket. For reasons still unknown they delayed the development of the already proven strikes like the Khashkheli oilfield and the Pirkoh gas field and totally ignored the Dhodak oilfield. At a time when even the developed world was trying hard to revert partially to coal in order to design a more economical energy mix in view of the shooting oil prices, the government showed a surprising lack of interest in the indigenous coal deposits. It did not even bother to look into the old files of the Appropriate Technology Development Organisation which, prior to 1977, was working on the idea of setting up small hydel [presumably hydroelectric] power stations on a number of natural and artificial falls, especially in the north and had also undertaken a study on establishment [of] a network of windmills. Meanwhile, precious gas was put to indiscriminate use. Responsible officials at that time described the sharp enhancement of the share of gas in the total energy mix as an achievement of their planning. It was only when the gas pressure suddenly dropped in the winter of 1982 that the authorities became aware of the looming crisis. As a result, cement factories were converted to furnace oil at great costs and in haste. Emergency foreign assistance was sought to develop Pirkoh. This was supplemented with extra levy on prices of petroleum products. Union Texas was allowed to drill wells in Badin. When the crisis developed into something of a calamity in the summer of 1983, old reports on Lakhra coal reserves were dusted up and retrieved. But too much time had already been lost. Hence, the current crisis.

It is, indeed, unfortunate that throughout the fifth plan period the so-called planning experts and other official functionaries seemingly treated the energy problem rather casually. They adopted this attitude knowing very well that the per capita consumption of commercial energy in Pakistan was about one-half of the average for low-income developing countries, one-ninth of the world average and one-forty-eighth of the U.S. average. They also knew that about one-third of the total energy consumption in Pakistan is based on non-commercial sources like firewood, charcoal and cowdung. Given these facts, the country can hardly be expected to come out of its present energy crisis in the foreseeable future. Attempts, however, have to be made now to reduce the expected impact of this crisis on the socioeconomic life of the country. In this connection, it would be only wise to attack the problem from all possible angles. Highest priority should be accorded to exploitation of indigenous coal reserves. The proposed Kalabagh project would surely be of great help when completed in the 1990's. Meanwhile, attention must be focused on establishing small hydel stations on appropriately located small waterfalls, artificial as well as natural. Solar technology is developing very fast. If sensible schemes are undertaken now, a part of the energy supply-demand gap could be filled by solar energy in a relatively short time. The country has a number of sites suitable for operating windmills. These should be made use of as early as possible. Pakistan has a number of undeveloped gasfields with proven reserves. Foreign assistance should be sought to develop these without much delay. Recent reports indicate that oil exploration efforts are yielding good results. These efforts should be kept up without getting carried away by the glamour and excitement generally associated with oil discoveries. Meanwhile, plans should be taken in hand urgently to develop the Dhodak oilfield.

Also, closer attention should be paid to the nuclear programme, especially the Chashma nuclear project. But it must be kept in mind that a nuclear power plant dependent on imported fuel would be helpful only to the extent that KANUPP [Karachi Nuclear Powerplant] has been able to contribute to the KESC's [Karachi Electric Supply Company] power generation efforts which has not been very significant since Canada stopped supplying fuel and parts to this nuclear plant a number of years ago. If we could fabricate our own fuel, the nuclear option would be the most economical and the quickest. Those who possess nuclear technology do not appear to be favourably inclined to offer it to Pakistan for the present. While this attitude is much to be regretted, there is no escape from the cold reality that Pakistan does not yet possess the required technological capability and, as such, it would be practical not to attach exaggerated hopes to the nuclear option for the present. It is important that the government draws up an energy programme which does not depend unduly on one or the other source of power.

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ANOMALY SEEN IN LUXURY IMPORTS WHILE ECONOMY FOUNDERS

Karachi AMN in Urdu 16 May 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Stop the Import of Luxury Goods"]

[Text] According to information received here, of the seven cargo-ships that arrived in Karachi port on Tuesday, two were carrying cars. There were 774 cars in all. In notices of cargo-ship arrivals in Karachi over the past 4-1/2 months, there was not a single one that did not include ships loaded with cars. This means that thousands of cars have been imported even before the end of the first four months of 1984. The policies of our economic experts are strange. We get foreign loans for development purposes and then waste our foreign exchange importing cars.

We are told that there is too much paper money in circulation in our country and that the amount of money in the Reserve Bank is dwindling fast. We are behind in repayment of our loans. Our foreign trade is running at a loss. Aside from having to repay foreign loans, we need more loans to pay the interest on those loans. We are so deeply in debt that every child born in our country is born a debtor. The economy of our country is sustained by the foreign exchange sent home by Pakistanis working in the Middle East, the Gulf states and other foreign countries. None of these sources of income is permanent. Instead of depending on them, we should start looking for alternative means of earning money in case these sources of income cease or decline.

When we sent our workers to the Middle East and the Gulf states, we should have realized that their jobs were temporary and that they could not live permanently in foreign lands. If we had used a little foresight, we could have used the foreign exchange sent home by these workers (mostly technicians) in some productive manner. But no such step was taken. There was no arrangement even for the education of these workers' children; they had to have their children educated in Europe, India and Sri Lanka. Pakistan was deprived of the foreign exchange it could have earned by educating these children.

The Overseas Pakistanis' Foundation has proved to be a bungler. It has not done a thing for Pakistanis. It invested some money in the transportation business, but the money was lost. We have been hearing about a convention of

overseas Pakistanis, but there is no sign of its ever taking place. We should have taken precautionary measures against all mishaps, but we did not come to our senses until things had gone completely out of control. Even now we do not realize how grave the situation is. There is no restriction on the import of luxury goods such as cars, color TV's, VCR's, air conditioners and air conditioning plants. If an item is imported illegally, it is allowed to pass after payment of a penalty tax. Video games are a case in point.

This state of affairs is no secret to anyone. Countries of the Western bloc, especially those who have ensnared us in a net of loans, are always trying to find our weak points. In this age of commercial and industrial espionage, our affairs are no secret to them. They must be laughing at our crazy people who buy luxury goods when they have no capital for financial investment, no knowledge of modern technology, no solid planning for their future and no self-sufficiency in food products.

Many factories for the manufacture of cars have been started in Pakistan. True, the production is not sufficient to satisfy the demand for cars. Some parts are made in Pakistan, but most have to be imported. As time passes, the production of cars will increase and all the parts of the cars will be manufactured in our own country. But it appears that our nation is without patience. That is why we are wasting our foreign exchange on imported cars when cars are being manufactured in our own country. This shortsightedness is going to hurt us in the long run.

All the things we have cited above are luxury goods. We should have eschewed them during the period of our country's development. By not showing foresight, we have created hurdles in our own path and in the path of our coming generations. The world is moving ahead at terrific speed. Only active and energetic nations, with plans geared to the needs of the times, can keep pace.

A man of action continues his work, even when he feels overtaxed. As long as we have not achieved our national goals and become equal to the developed nations, as long as we cannot give our people all the facilities enjoyed by the people of well-to-do nations, none of us has the right to live in luxury on imported luxury goods.

If the people of the DPRK could say good-bye to all the pleasures and comforts of life until they became an industrial power, why can't we do the same? Certainly we can. We have a bright future if we stop the import not only of cars but of every luxury item. It is only when our country has achieved the goal of prosperity that we should begin to think about a life of comfort.

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## BRIEFS

PAKISTAN-SOUTH KOREA PARLIAMENTARY BODY--Seoul, May 18--South Korean and Pakistani parliamentary leaders on Thursday agreed here to promote the formation of a bilateral parliamentary friendship association. The agreement came during a 40-minute talk between the visiting chairman of the Pakistani Federal Council, Khawaja Muhammad Safdar, and his Korean counterpart, speaker Chai Mun-Shik. Mr Safdar paid a courtesy call on Chai at his office. Chai proposed the formation of a Korea-Pakistan parliamentarians association, stressing the cooperation between the two countries Mr Safdar agreed with the proposal.--AFP [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 May 84 p 1]

MEASURES AGAINST LAWLESSNESS URGED--Karachi, May 19--The Governor of Sind Gen. Jehandad Khan, has been requested by notables of the city to take stringent measures to combat the ever-increasing corruption and incidents of lawlessness in the province, particularly the metropolis. It may be mentioned that recently a group of prominent traders and industrialists of the city and a group of lawyers met the Governor on his invitation. During the conversation the traders and industrialists complained of the growing corruption, including illegal gratification and bribery, in different departments like Telephones, Electricity and Customs which is not only hampering business but also causing hardship to the community. The lawyers, it is learnt, have complained against the growing corruption in the magistracy and police officials. According to sources, the Governor has assured them that the Government would look into the matter and would do everything to clean the departments of corrupt officials and personnel. It may also be mentioned that the Governor, after a detailed tour of the interior of the province, was not meeting cross-sections of society, including Federal and provincial councillors, to acquaint himself with the problems. In this connection he was scheduled to meet the editors of local dailies this evening at the Governor's House. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 May 84 p 1]

U.S. AID FOR ENERGY--Islamabad, May 19--The resumed U.S. economic assistance programme in Pakistan allocates approximately 30 percent of its resources to the energy sector. According to a report, the U.S. contribution to the projects planned for 1982 to 1987 amount to 458 million dollars. The total value of the energy projects that United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is currently supporting is 1.5 billion dollars. The emphasis of the USAID energy assistance falls into five subject areas, which include energy planning and development, electric power generation, rural electrification,

coal development and fuel-wood forestry conservation and development. So far, the report said, only about one-third of the villages in Pakistan were electrified. The percentage will rise rapidly during the 6th Five Year Plan, when more than half of the remaining villages will receive electricity service, the report claimed.--APP [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 May 84 p 1]

GOLD, SILVER DEPOSITS IN CHITRAL--Peshawar, May 19--The Canadian experts have confirmed very promising contents in the gold and silver deposits located in Chitral and work is now underway to estimate the actual reserves. The Chairman of the Sarhad Development Authority, Iftikharuddin Khattak, breaking this news to THE MUSLIM said that samples of gold and silver had been sent to Canada some time back and the final report received from there had confirmed high percentage of mineral content. He said that teams had since been deputed at site to explore the economics of the project which would be worked out on the basis of the report to be submitted by the authority's experts. The current operation in Chitral also covered scheelite which contains tungsten. The SDA Chairman said that work on the copper deposits in Chitral and Kohistan was also in progress. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 May 84 p 1]

SECTARIAN MEETINGS BANNED--Lahore, May 19--The District Magistrate Lahore has issued the following Press Note today. "For sometime past, attempts are being made by some elements to create misunderstanding and rift between the Deobandis and Brelvis. The government has taken very serious notice of the situation arising out of the allegations and counterallegations which is not in the best interest of the unity of Ummah. The government is duty-bound to curb such attempts to ensure sectarian peace and harmony. The "ya Rasool Ullah Conference" and "Mohammad Ur Rasool Ullah Conference" announced by the Brelvi and Deobandi Ulema for May 21, 1984, simultaneously in Badshahi Mosque, Lahore are tantamount to physical confrontation between the two which cannot be permitted. The administration has already prohibited the use of the Mosque for any such sectarian conference and the District Magistrate Lahore had disallowed the carrying of firearms in Lahore. The organisers of these sectarian conferences and the general public are advised to abide by the law and observe the restriction imposed by the government." [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 May 84 p 1]

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